SECURITY OF TENURE

Why submit to the worries and insecurity of Tenancy, when the

"CITY LIFE" ADVANCE POLICY

enables you to enjoy the rights and privileges of ownership?

Full Particulars free from D.B.U.S.B.

CITY LIFE Assurance Co. Ltd.

6, PAUL ST., FINSBURY, E.C.2

HAD YOUR XMAS GIFT YET? See Page 24.

JOHN BULL

VOL. XXVI. No. 705. SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1919. TWOPENCE.

[Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.]

MORRIS'S TURKISH "PLEET" Cigarettes

have the pleasing aromatic properties of the world-famed Dubec growth of Turkish tobacco

1/- for 20

of Tobacconists everywhere

D. Morris & Sons Ltd., London N.1

Resting, but Watchful

Edited by HORATIO BOTTOMLEY

SHOT WITHOUT APPEAL

By Appointment [redacted] to H.M. The King.

The Milk that Never Fails You

QUALITY FIRST—that's the ideal of 'Ideal.' The purest and cleanest milk—produced under ideal conditions—healthy cows and wholesome hygienic dairies.

IDEAL MILK

is fresh milk concentrated to the consistency of cream. No sugar or other preservatives added.

Better than unknown brands first imported during the shortage—Ideal Milk is guaranteed much richer in cream than 'Evaporated Milk' made under American Government Standards.

Don't be misled by larger tins—it's the quality that counts—not the size of the tin.

Sold Everywhere.
Cash price 1½d. and 6d. per tin.

IF UNOBTAINABLE LOCALLY WRITE TO NESTLÉ'S, 6 & 8, EASTCHEAP, E.C.3

The Voice of THE DOCTORS

Could anything be more convincing—could anything more clearly or more satisfactorily prove the worth of Hall's Wine, than the countless numbers of letters on our file from doctors all over the country? Among them, are many asking for favourable treatment in supplies, owing to the vital and urgent necessity of Hall's Wine to patients. Other doctors testify to the worth of Hall's Wine in their practice. We give below quotations from a few:

"Hall's Wine is the best I know for keeping one up during times of strenuous pressure."

"Hall's Wine is invaluable, especially where vitality is low or nerves are shattered."

Hall's Wine

THE SUPREME TONIC RESTORATIVE

Every effort is being made to satisfy the increasing volume of orders for Hall's Wine, but as the demand exceeds available supplies, the public are asked to have patience.

LARGE SIZE BOTTLE, 5/6

Of Wine Merchants and Grocers and Chemists with Wine Licences.

STEPHEN SMITH & CO., LTD., BOW, LONDON, E. 3.

990

Give Your Boy Meccano

Every bright, eager boy in Britain wants Meccano. Boys love engineering. They don't care about toys they can only look at. Boys want models that work—something they can take to pieces and build again. Meccano satisfies this desire in full.

MECCANO

It places in their hands a wonderful system of shining steel parts—Strips, Plates and Girders, Gear and Pulley Wheels, Chains, Bolts and Nuts, with which they can build scores of fine working models—Cranes, Bridges, Trucks, Clocks, Motors, Looms, Searchlights, "Aeroplanes."

Give your boy a Meccano Outfit to-day, and let him share the fun.

Great £200 Prize Competition

CLOSING DATE 31st MARCH, 1920.

We offer big money prizes for the best original models. No restrictions or entrance fee. Open to all users of MECCANO. Full particulars and entry form can be obtained from your Toy Dealer, or from Meccano, Ltd., Binns Road, Liverpool.

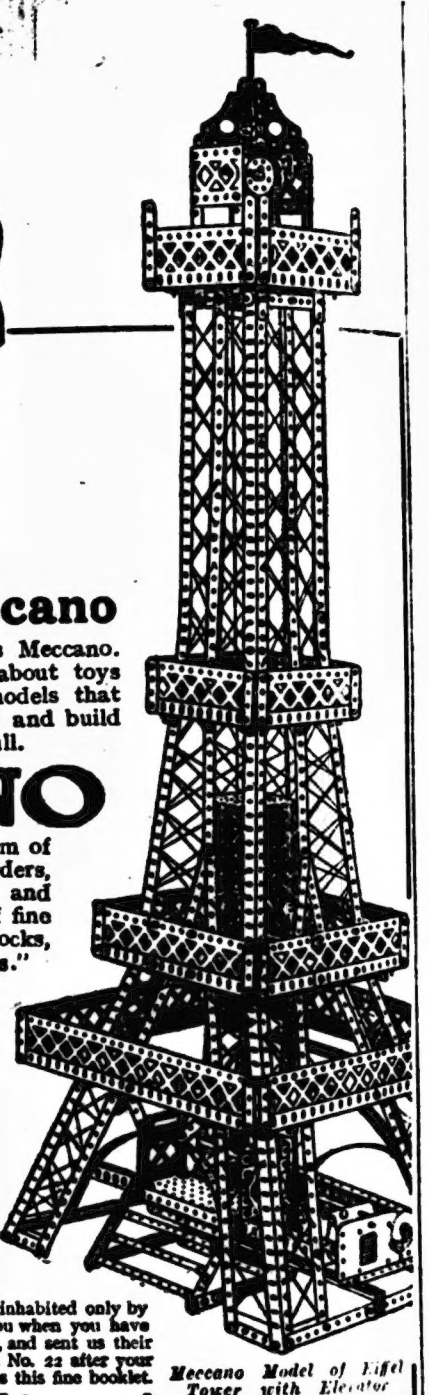
Prices: Complete Outfits, 6/- to 180/-

Sold by all the best Toy-Dealers.

FREE—Superb book, "MECCANO-LAND."

An absorbing story of a sunny country inhabited only by happy boys. A copy will be posted to you when you have shown this advertisement to three chums, and sent us their names and addresses with your own. Put No. 22 after your name for reference. No boy ought to miss this fine booklet.

Meccano Ltd: Binns Road: Liverpool



Meccano Model of Eiffel Tower with Elevator worked by motor.

"If you see it on the lamp it is so."

You can only be sure that a lamp is as efficient as science and research can make it if you see the name Mazda on the bulb. Then you can be certain of maximum lighting service and economy.

MAZDA

ELECTRIC LAMPS.

The British Thomson-Houston Co Ltd
77 UPPER THAMES STREET E.C4.

A Wonderful Christmas Present for 5/-.

BUY ALL YOUR FRIENDS A 5/- TICKET IN

THE GOLDEN BALLOT

(Under the Patronage of ADMIRAL EARL BEATTY)

IN AID OF SETTLEMENTS FOR

DISABLED SAILORS & SOLDIERS

(Registered under the War Charities Act).

AND YOU MAY WIN THEM A FORTUNE.

FIRST PRIZE - - - £2,500.

2nd Prize: The Lease of a London House, or £1,000
3rd Prize: A Motor Car. 4th Prize: A Pearl Necklace.
5th Prize: £500.

Hundreds of other Valuable Prizes.

The PEARL NECKLACE, priced at £900, is now on view at Messrs. Carrington's shop in REGENT STREET.

Closing date — April 29th, 1920.

COUPON.

Write Plainly in Ink and cross your Postal Order. Letters to be addressed to Mrs. C. F. Leyel (Desk 21), 8, Marble Arch, London, W.1.

Please post to me.....Tickets for the Golden Ballot, for which I enclose P.O. value.....

Name (in full).....

Address .....

.....

JOHN BULL

"Peace hath her victories no less renowned than war"
—*Milton.*

The Paper on which the Sun Never Sets.

Politics without Party—Criticism without Cant:
Without Fear or Favour, Rancour or Rant.

"For forms of government let fools contest;
Whate'er is best administered is best."—*Pope.*

Vol. XXVI. No. 705. Week ending Saturday, December 6th, 1919. Twopence.

"THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL."

[*The Editor discourses upon passing events and topics of the day.*]

Electoral Apathy.

The principal feature of the bye-elections is the immense number of abstentions on the part of electors, despite all the Press excitement. We are afraid politics generally are in a bad way.

"Dunno Who He Are."

Another remarkable illustration of electoral indifference has been the large number of inquiries we have recently received from readers who were desirous of sending the Premium Bond coupon to their members, but had not the faintest idea who they were. "Will you kindly send this on to my local M.P., as I don't know his name?" is typical of hundreds of requests which have reached us!

Lady Astor.

By the time this issue is published her Ladyship will have taken her seat. We have already pointed out the anomaly of the first woman to sit in the Commons House being both a Peeress and of non-British birth. Although, of course, we wish "the noble lady" every happiness in her new sphere of activity, we will risk being charged with rudeness in saying that we think she should have gone to "another place."

A Strange Pension Authority.

We gather that the new authority, now that the Local Government Board has been abolished, for the administration of Old Age Pensions is—whom do you think? The Board of Customs and Excise! The sooner this custom is excised the better!

The School Age Limit.

We receive many complaints from employers that they are prohibited from engaging boys of fourteen years of age—even when their parents are actually in need of the money the youngsters could earn. What a farce the new age limit is!

The Kaiser's Parentage.

You may remember that a certain portion of Bismarck's Memoirs is not to be published till the death of the Kaiser. What would you say if it then turned out that Wilhelm is not, after all, the child of our Princess, but was "swopped" for a girl baby on the day of his birth? That is the fantastic story current.

"He Must Not Die."

So Frederick Carter is to live; and our appeal was not in vain. The Home Secretary sent medical experts to Nottingham Prison, and they declared, what should have been plain to judge and jury at the trial—that the ex-soldier is insane. Broadmoor, and not the scaffold, is the final verdict. Poor Carter!

"In the House."

During the past week we have been actively engaged in completing arrangements for the big "full-dress" debate on Premium Bonds, which will have taken place before these lines are read; and, consequently, the customary feature of "In the House" does not appear in this issue.

A Suggested Epitaph.

We know it is not a very original idea, but all the same we record the suggestion of one of our readers that the epitaph of most of our eminent politicians should be "Here lies ——, who never did anything else."

THE "DEUTSCHLAND" IN THE THAMES.

Despite the wretched weather last week, large numbers of Londoners availed themselves of the opportunity of inspecting the great German submarine—now lying off Charing Cross Pier—special arrangements having been made for their protection from the wet. As already announced, a steam launch leaves the pier every half hour for the submarine, and an inclusive charge of one shilling covers admission to the deck, launch fare and Entertainment Tax—a further shilling being charged for an inspection of the interior of the vessel. Early in the new year the ship will start on a coastal tour, so that London readers should not delay their visits. It should be remembered that all proceeds from the exhibition go to King George's Fund for Sailors.

A large number of interesting souvenirs have been manufactured from the spare metal of the vessel, and an illustrated catalogue will be forwarded on application.

Several of the articles, however, are already out of stock, and, owing to certain trade strikes, some little delay has arisen in connection with the execution of some of the orders. The various articles can, however, be booked.

Specimens of the souvenirs, picture post-cards, etc., may be seen at the offices of the Victory Club, 26, King Street, St. James's, S.W.1, on board the DEUTSCHLAND, *or on Charing Cross Pier.*

Watch Germany.

Let those who believe in German sincerity ponder the words of Herr Ertzberger, the German leader, who recently wrote: "The signing of Peace, which may be formally done, does not of course mean an end to the development of political ambitions." And note this too: "Russia is now ripe, if planted with German seed."

Good Company.

Thus the *Times of Malaya* on ourselves: "That great man is one of three who have done work for the British Empire which is beyond praise"—the other two are His Majesty and the Prime Minister!

A Welcome Announcement.

One of our provincial readers tells us that he recently heard a short-sighted old lady reading our poster "Bottomley on the Strike," and apparently missing the "the," remark: "Thank goodness, that man is going to be quiet at last!" But there's no strike pay for us!

Discretion the Better Part.

The House of Commons is a most tolerant assembly. We always wonder how, after his insult to the King, members ever tolerate Mr. Neil McLean, who in a recent speech declared: "I intend to remain in the Labour movement until Bolshevism is brought into this country." We presume he will then retire.

The Angelus.

Apropos of our plea for the ringing of the Angelus Bell, inviting two minutes' meditation every evening, several of our Catholic readers send us the Angelus Prayer, and ask us whether we also wish that added to the ceremony. We prefer, however, that at the ringing of the bell everyone should indulge in his or her own form of supplication.

"Next, Please!"

We recently suggested that one step in the direction of public economy would be the abolition of the Labour Exchanges. We now beg to add the Officers' Appointments Department—at present situated at Horrex's Hotel in the Strand. Every week brings us additional evidence of the utter futility of this pompous concern.

The Gimcrack Dinner.

We had our first experience as a guest of the Gimcrack Club last week. It is an interesting and picturesque function; the bulk of the diners were in pink hunting-coats. We sat near the Chairman, Mr. Melrose—a grand old sportsman, in his 92nd year—whilst immediately opposite us was Johnnie Osborne, the once famous jockey, now well on the road to ninety. So, altogether, we felt quite young.

Money Talks.

In our popular Free Football Competitions the sum of £3,300 has already been paid out in prizes this season. This is by far the largest amount awarded by any paper. No wonder the competition has "caught on."

Local Limerick.

[A spiritualist medium has confessed himself "guilty of heartless fraud and deceit."]

There was a fake-medium rogue, he
Spoofed many a credulous fogy
That their loved ones, at rest,
He could show, but confessed
That the ghosts he produced were "all bogy"!

Award and Reward.

After arbitration, night staff telephonists on the Post Office system have been granted an increase of ten per cent. on their wages. But the temporary part-time-night telephonists get nothing. This is unjust and ungrateful, for many of them are men who "stuck it" during all air raids, when their work was simply invaluable. Their "reward" is an "award" that ignores them.

Unfair Discrimination.

We note that at a recent meeting of the Wisbech Profiteering Committee the representatives of the Press were asked to withdraw during the consideration of a complaint against a local outfitter. If any sound reason had been adduced for this departure from the usual practice of publicity it might have been another matter; otherwise it seems most unfair that one case should be heard in private, while the names of other tradesmen are publicly stated and their transactions fully disclosed.

A Dangerous Rule.

If the decision of Mr. Justice Darling is to stand, in the case in which a local butcher sued the Tiverton Food Committee for damages, it would appear that if a butcher is offered a diseased carcase by the Food Control authorities, he has no option but to accept and pay for it, reserving his claims for damages. We have the greatest respect for the acumen of the learned Judge, whose "law" is seldom open to criticism, but upon grounds of public policy it is earnestly to be hoped, either that this decision will be reversed, or the Food Regulations modified to prevent the forced sale of tainted meat.

All the Same.

Referring to our remarks on German goods in British Army canteens, "A Demobbed Soldier" sends us the cover of a Hun match box containing "safety-without-brimstone" matches "the same as were issued to British troops in France about 23rd Oct., 1919." He says they "would not have been so bad if they were of any use; but they will not strike." If that is the only or chief objection, it applies also to millions of British matches distributed in this country at a penny a box. Perhaps, on the whole, if we are to be imposed upon, the Huns might as well do it. Neither in price nor value are British matches any special credit to British manufacturers.

P.O. Negligence.

It is a comfortable belief that a Bank of England note, if lost, stolen, or strayed, can be traced by means of its number. That is true if the note comes to you through a bank—for the bankers, being business people, keep a record of all such numbers. But the rule does not hold good at a Post Office, or at the P.O. Savings Bank. Seven £5 notes, drawn from the P.O. Savings Bank at West Hill, S.W.8, were lost. On inquiry there, it was learned that the numbers of those seven notes had not been recorded, and we find there is no rule in the P.O. obliging a postmaster to keep such a record. But most certainly there should be. Now then, Mr. Illingworth!

Picking and Stealing.

Everybody has heard of the lodging-house cat that used to burn the lodger's coals and drink his whisky—when there was any. Well, there must be a cat like that on the railway in Yorkshire. A Huddersfield widow has a friend who kindly sends her fruit at the wholesale prices. But it does not always arrive. First, half a basket of strawberries vanished; next, 4 lbs. disappeared out of 12 lbs. of plums; and, on 25th October, when 56 lbs. of apples were sent, only 43 lbs. arrived. The railway company must severely admonish its cat.

Pre-War Pensions.

We must again press the matter of old pensioners, men retired on the pre-war scale. The present case—only one of very many recently reported to us—is that of a Sergeant of the Dorset Constabulary. Retired just before the war, he rejoined on its first day, and has altogether served 29 years and 3 months in the force. His pension is 20s. 8d. a week, for a man and wife to live on in these days. An ordinary constable retiring on the new scale gets about three times as much. The "old" pension pay is nothing but cruelty.

- £250 -

MUST BE WON

FOR NAMING TEN WINNING

:●: FOOTBALL TEAMS : :

Or next largest number of winning teams.

Fill up the coupon on page iii. of cover.

Over the Pit.

Subsidences caused by the making of collieries are ever a fruitful source of trouble. Among the latest complainants are the ratepayers of Risca, Glamorgan, who find their own houses as well as public property suffering badly. When a thrifty man succeeds in buying a cot for his declining years it is galling to find that cot also declining and cracking, and trying to emulate the Leaning Tower of Pisa. The colliery owners go on burrowing and never dream of compensation. Yet the fault is theirs.

Drat that Laundry!

"I am writing to ask if you could air the shameful profiteering in laundry work," writes a Kensington lady. We can. We have. We will. "Every article has been raised in price during the war, according to the size, and when one paid 2d. or 3d. bonus one bore patiently, but when it has been raised 6d. on every shilling one feels it is not necessary, and very hard on middle-class householders." It is all due to a laundrymen's ramp; and moons ago it was suggested in these columns that the only way to counteract it was for every housewife to run a laundry on her own.

"Charity Milk."

"Put a beggar on horseback and he will ride to the Devil." It is curious how utterly supercilious and overbearing wealth makes so many of the new rich. A discharged tubercular soldier has received from a War Pensions Committee, instead of a weekly payment in money, orders on tradesmen—amongst them a dairy firm whose roundsman passes the place where he lives. His sister called at the shop and asked them whether they would deliver. "I was informed by the manager's wife," she says, "that they did not deliver charity milk, and I should have to call for it daily." The soldier's sister naturally resents the stigma.

Mingy in Manchester.

"Wanted," says the Public Health Office, Manchester, "a well-educated Male Clerk, age 21 to 26; wages, £1 10s. per week, plus 10s. war bonus . . . Selected candidates will have to sit for examination." We begin to understand the Bolshevist cry, "Brains Don't Count!" In the Public Health Office at Manchester, they certainly do not pay.

Some Kitchen.

A reader laments—indeed, he seems almost inclined to shed the bitter tear—the reported decision of the Ministry of Food to shut down the National Kitchen in New Bridge Street, E.C., describing it as "about the only war-time effort of the Government which has paid its way and shown a profit." It was a boon and a blessing to the humbler newspaper workers, he assures us.

What Hay! What Ho!

"They had found it very difficult to get good hay and had to pay a big price for bad hay," declared a member—Mr. H. Bellamy—of the Yarmouth Town Council, at a recent meeting. And this is the hay now being sold at £17 10s. a ton uncontrolled; while at the beginning of the war hay was £4 15s. a ton, and by the end of the war, under control, had reached only £7 to £8 a ton. £17 10s. a ton is a scandalous and iniquitous price. The Stables Committee of the Yarmouth Council do right in bringing the matter before the Anti-Profiteering Tribunal.

Unnatural Landladies.

It seems that landladies not only hate children already in existence, but object to one coming along. An ex-soldier was about to take a flat in Clapham Road, though the rent was stiff. His reason for closing was that in 20 cases during the week he had been turned away because a baby was expected. Well, when the same fact was confessed to in Clapham Road, the landlady at once put the rent up another 7s., making it prohibitive. Isn't it unnatural for a woman to put a baby into trouble even before it is born!

Monocular Justice.

Although, as was pointed out at the hearing, "there was no suggestion of profiteering," the goods having actually been "sold below control price," the Daventry Justices fined a fishmonger, named Edward Robinson, £4 and £4 12s. costs for selling apples, mackerel, and tinned salmon from a lorry without having a proper price list displayed. But they are not always so severe. At the same session of the Court a confessed thief escaped with a fine of £2, while a smallholder charged with cruelty to a pony was only 13s. 7d. the poorer for his want of common humanity!

Lunatic.

At Brookwood Mental Asylum some of the officials who are in seem to be a great deal more insane than the people they let out. A South Wimbledon man entered the institution with general paralysis. He was then wearing a good suit of clothes. When discharged a week or two ago, the officials rigged him in a bad fit, not his own—every garment of the suit being stamped "Brookwood Male Asylum." This man gets a new job in an office and has to hang up his coat, and wherever he does so—there is exposed the brand of his burning! Besides, supposing an accident happens to such a man in the street, he would probably be sent back to the Asylum, even if he were conscious enough to make a protest. The present practice is little less than persecution.

Local Limerick.

Jos Hart, butcher, Amesbury, was at Salisbury fined £440 on 44 summonses for overcharging.

There's a butcher whose now in the cart
For essaying the profiteer's art;
The fine he must pay
Took his breath right away,
And left him a very sad Hart.

The Land and the Lasses.

Since we wrote "Hard on the Land Lasses," a number of ex-Tommies have been busy pitching bouquets into our office after them. 'Tis good to see. An ex-Sergeant, speaking of his farm girls, says "They made the best of a very unthankful job, so why not a little appreciation of the kind the stop-at-home flappers have got namely, a gratuity or bonus?" Perhaps the ex-Sergeant can get a few thousands of them together and see Mr. Lloyd George about it!

A Baby's Death.

There is room for fuller inquiry into the circumstances surrounding the death of a newly-born infant, at Leigh, near Tonbridge, a fatality attributed by the Coroner to "inattention at birth." The father complained of the failure of all his efforts to procure medical assistance for his wife—his statements on this head calling for close investigation in the interests of the doctor and midwife whose names were specifically mentioned. If, as seems probable, it was a case for panel treatment, the local Insurance Committee may have something to say.

Erratic Sympathy.

There is a City Councillor, at Leeds, whose heart bleeds for the Huns, as the Kaiser's did for Belgium. Having just returned from a visit to Germany, Mr. Councillor Hunter is in extremely low spirits, the condition of our late enemies being so "extremely sad" as to have wounded his sensitive mind in several places. There is some allowance to be made for Mr. Hunter, seeing that he has "known the Germans for thirty-two years," and "some of the best and kindest friends he ever knew were Germans." But we wish his tender sympathies had been exercised nearer home.

Forced to the Workhouse.

The Fareham Magistrates did a bad thing when they turned a man, wife, and two children out of their cottage at Funtley, making their order of ejectment in the absence of the man. The family and their goods were evicted in the rain, and their only shelter was the workhouse. That is hard lines upon a worker, soldier of the Boer War, who owed no rent, and a merciless act by Magistrates who, at the very least, might have waited a little longer. Such things should not be done except as a last resort and for sufficient reasons.

Sheffield's Shambles.

Some nauseous revelations are being made about the state of Sheffield's shambles. By all accounts, the place is in a disgusting condition of insanitation everywhere. The seven stinks of Baghdad are said to be historic; here there are so many, apparently, that experts can neither count 'em nor assort 'em. It is in the midst of these stinks, above sinks stopped and floors reeking with blood and filth and ghastly garbage, that Sheffield's meat is hung for human food and living sheep are crushed into corners till the executioners are ready to do them to death—one by one.

The Woman at the Window.

It is pleasant, when having one's office windows cleaned, to see a smartly uniformed and buxom lass wielding the washleather; but, after a moment, more serious thoughts arise. What about the ex-Service men whose trade was window cleaning before the war? Then there is the danger. Yet women can be seen working precariously 30 and 40 feet above the ground. In the interest of the women themselves, and in justice to the ex-Service men, window cleaning companies employing female labour should be boycotted.

Fishy Statements.

It is a wonderful world, and according to Mr. L. J. Haddock, a Mormon missionary at Liverpool, the sweetest spot in it is Salt Lake City, the home of the "Latter Day Saints." That the Mormons approve of polygamy, as a matter of theory, Mr. Haddock does not deny, but very few of them practise it, while as for persuading English girls to embrace the system—and its leading exponents—well, they couldn't do it if they tried! If our pigeonholes were not crammed with evidence telling in the opposite direction, we might manage to believe Mr. Haddock.

Hot Air from New York.

A reader sends us a copy of one of the wild-cat journals of New York, containing an article headed, "Reign of Terror in Erin as American Eyes See it." But its faked ferocity fails to move us. It doesn't "get our goat." We turn to another page of the same yellow paper, and find more startling headlines: "Bad Tooth of Sultan Drawn by American." There's national pride for you! And "Mark Twain Believed in Immortality. Becky Thatcher, Sweetheart of the Humorist's Boyhood, Gives Her Views." The Reign of Terror in Erin, Becky, and the Sultan's Tooth, are all on a par. They are Yankee journalism. Only that, and nothing more.

HAD *YOUR* XMAS GIFT YET?

See Page 21.

Cruelty and Law.

The law against cruelty to animals badly needs strengthening. At Paisley, Mr. Robert Maxwell, who seems to have enjoyed the "sport" of seeing his terrier worry a cat to death, was allowed to escape punishment, the Court being rather "doubtful whether they could convict him on the matter or not." If permitting one animal to be tortured by another does not amount to "cruelty" in contemplation of law, the sooner we give up the pretence of protecting the dumb creation the better.

A Secret Trial.

We desire to call public attention to an extraordinary episode in the Glasgow Sheriff Criminal Court the other day, when a notice in the following terms was handed down to the Press table:—"Directions from Sheriff—Witnesses' addresses not to be published." A little later Sheriff Boyd, observing that the reporters were still taking notes, told them that "if that went on" he would clear the Court, since "nothing of the case was to appear in the newspapers." The case was one in which a woman, named Elizabeth Patterson was convicted of theft and sentenced to six months' imprisonment. What was there to hide?

Two Bites.

Bites vary in price. At the Kingston Borough Police Court a lady who, in a moment of irritation, bit a policeman, was fined 40s., as against the penalty of the £5 mulct to the owner of a dog in Palmers Crescent, which had favoured a postman with a similar mark of esteem. On general principles, we should have expected the lady, who was the direct author of the bite, to receive the heavier fine, the same Magistrates adjudicating in each case but there may, of course, have been special reasons for the Court's decision.

Bad for the Boys!

An application by the Comrades of the Great War to hold a boxing tournament lately came up for the consideration of the Inverness Magistrates. One of them "drew the line," because it was "a bruising of human flesh," and the application was refused by a majority. Such an incident as this, occurring in a city of the importance of Inverness, would be laughable were it not so painfully absurd. How on earth do such narrow-minded and ignorant kill-joys obtain their municipal positions?

The Lads Still Missing.

Those boys of ours, still "missing" and unaccounted for by Germany, are a source of infinite grief to parents and relatives. An ex-soldier, now safe home, says he was taken prisoner in 1917, and was one of a party of 400 ordered for work behind the German lines. He was there a month, and in that time four of our boys, prisoners, were killed by shells, and a fifth was taken away, suffering from shell-shock. He concludes, roundly, that the "missing" men were, in that way, murdered by the enemy—a severe indictment with, certainly, some proof of truth.

A Tame Bolshie.

The Aberdeen Town Council is happy or otherwise in the possession of a full-blown Bolshevist member, Mr. A. Fraser Macintosh. At first he was inclined to "kick up his stumps" at taking the oath, but this he has finally agreed to do "under protest," and with the intimation that "anything taken under protest is not binding." Seeing that the so-called "oath" is simply a declaration that the municipal representative will "faithfully perform the duties of the office of Councillor of the Burgh of Aberdeen," it is hard to see why Mr. Macintosh should object to it, but when a man calls himself a Bolshevist he must splash about.

Producer v. Retailer.

By all rules of life, when one member of a thieves' kitchen gives away another, the consumer ought to get his own. By no means is it so not at present. The milk retailer charges the farmer with exacting blood-money; the farmer indicts the retailer for daylight robbery; the middleman says of both of 'em that he doesn't get his honest share of the swag. In some quarters, the farmer now suggests that depôts for milk obtained on a co-operative basis direct from the farmer should be established in quarters where humble folk could conveniently fetch their own supplies. This would consolidate the poor farmers' profits. The poor retailer would get none. Thus do the Christians love one another.

Don't be Too Late.

If you want a Christmas Box of no less than £1,000 you must send in a "Bullets" coupon, without delay. This is the last week of this remarkable offer. See page 28.

CANDID COMMUNICATIONS.

This page is devoted to Open Letters to Celebrities, Notorieties, and, occasionally, Nonentities.

To the Hon. Mr. Justice Greer.

MY LORD,—It was evidently a matter of regret to you that you were unable to pass a heavier sentence than the legal maximum of two years' hard labour upon the negro rascal charged before you, at Warwick, with a dastardly offence against a young girl typist—less than 16 years of age—in his employ. To my mind, however, the most satisfactory feature of the case was that you had no hesitation in awarding the sternest penalty permitted by law, an example of just severity which I commend to some of your judicial colleagues who, by a misplaced leniency in cases of this nature, have unwittingly encouraged an abominable species of crime.

JOHN BULL.

To the Chief Constable of Lincoln.

DEAR POLICEMAN,—I observe that "in the interests of the morals of the young people of the city" you recently pounced upon a picture-dealer whose coloured reproductions of Old Masters had offended your Podsnappian eye, serving him with a summons under the Obscene Publications Act. I have not much patience with this sort of thing, although I recognise as deserving of pity the man who can see nothing but "obscenity" in recognised works of art. The Magistrates, I see, decided to make no Order, provided the pictures in question should not be openly exposed for sale. So if you want another official squint at them, you will have to go inside.

JOHN BULL.

To the Most Rev. Dr. Hallinan, Roman Catholic Bishop of Limerick.

DEAR BISHOP,—Though it may be that the present-day costumes of the ladies begin at one end a little too late and end at the other a little too soon, I really do not see why you should make such a fuss about it. After all, if the dress of Erin doesn't please you, you needn't look. It is simply foolish and childish bigotry to allege, as you allege, that the principal designers of the modern fashions in women's dress are "generally Parisian Jews or Freemasons, who are bitterly opposed to Christianity, and seek among other means to uproot it by the introduction into Christian society of their indecent dresses." As a matter of fact, the history of women's fashions is all against your theory. I have little doubt that if you had seen your great grandmother, or anybody else's, you would have been as shocked as Dr. Johnson, peradventure more so, yet that great man didn't attribute the display of white bosoms in his day to an attack by Jews and Freemasons on Christianity.

JOHN BULL.

To Councillor Thomas Crooks, Mayor of Darlington

DEAR MR. MAYOR,—I should be sorry to hurt your feelings at the outset of your year of office as Mayor of Darlington. You are, however, not only a Mayor, but a Magistrate—the Chief Magistrate—of your town, and it is for you to endeavour to behave with as much restraint towards others in your judicial office as you doubtless expect others to behave towards you. "I am sorry to say," you remarked in binding over a boy of 10, charged with stealing, "that you bear the features of a hardened criminal." I have seen your own photograph in the local papers, Mr. Mayor, but I make no remarks about it. The next time a boy comes to judgment, try to think of something more uplifting to say about him. A little kindly advice and a little timely warning—that is what is needed in such cases. "A word in season—how good it is!" It is a shame to "round on" a child because of his face. Even a Mayor of Darlington does not make his own.

JOHN BULL.

To Miss Doris Matthews, London.

DEAR HEROINE,—Accept my congratulations upon the splendid pluck that has won you the certificate of the Royal Humane Society. It appears that, while rowing off the beach at Southend, you caught sight of another girl struggling helplessly in a fatal current; whereupon, fully dressed, you plunged into the sea, and, after great difficulties, brought the exhausted swimmer safely to your boat just in time to avert the threatened tragedy. Never was the recognition of the Royal Humane Society more fittingly bestowed. Truly, British valour is no monopoly of either sex.

JOHN BULL.

To Major-General F. Ware, Director-General of Graves Registration.

DEAR GENERAL,—Although I know the difficulties in securing the identification of graves on the body-strewn battlefields, cannot something be done to prevent the removal of the identification marks which are so valuable in the work of search? I hear that the Chinese or the German prisoners have been taking away the rifles which have been stuck in the ground to mark the resting-places, and have also removed the boots—in some cases protruding from graves, in others placed by the side of them for identification purposes. If the local Committees in France are lacking in assistance, there are numbers of ex-officers at home who would readily tender help in this sacred task.

JOHN BULL.

To the Hon. Justice Clough, High Court, Northern Rhodesia.

MOST MERCIFUL JUDGE,—Before you was indicted D. W. Laurens, a youth of 16, for the murder of a native at Lusaka. The accused had gone out with a shot-gun, accompanied by native servants of his father, a farmer, and, seeing the Kaffir sitting down, taking a thorn out of his foot, pointed the gun deliberately and fired, inflicting such injuries that the man died shortly afterwards. Laurens shot him at a distance of 20 or 30 yards, and witnesses described it as a deliberate and wilful act. You, sir, sitting in the seat of justice, "having regard to all the circumstances and to the youth of the accused," sentenced him to receive—eight cuts with a cane . . . Good Lord! You have done a great disservice to the cause of British Government in South Africa.

JOHN BULL.

To Mr. F. W. Barnes, Butcher, Craven Arms, Ludlow.

SIR,—As I have on a previous occasion remarked, you butchers have some very nice, considerate and lenient Magistrates at Ludlow. On the initiation of the Food Ministry, you were prosecuted for grossly overcharging; in the case of a joint of mutton, 1s. 9½d., and in the case of a joint of beef, 10d. The usual defence came pat: "Guilty of making a mistake, sir." It is always, as I frequently say, a mistake of too much. In the light of your own previous admission to the Food Inspector, the overcharging was deliberate. "I have to deliver it a long way," you said then; and "I must admit an overcharge had been made and I will make a fresh ticket out." You were in fact delivering other meat over the distance covered by the allegation in this case. I hope you were able to find out of profits the 10s., including costs, in which you were mulcted; the Magistrates seem to have had no doubt of it. By the way, why not now overcharge *them* a bit on their next Sunday joint, to show there is no ill-feeling? Even if they catch you they may let you off just as cheaply. Or they may not.

JOHN BULL.

To Mr George Hardy, Agent of the I.W.W., Somewhere in Wales.

DEAR GEORGE,—I am glad to learn that your campaign in Wales, on behalf of the Industrial Workers of the World, has cut no ice among the rank and file of the miners. But it appears you are now addressing private meetings of miners' delegates to induce them to forward resolutions of protest to President Wilson against the "persecution" of men guilty of the gravest crimes against Society. Perhaps the Welsh miners will look into the matter and stop this little game of yours. I know them, and they are dead against the railway wrecking and crop burning which has made the name of the "I.W.W." stink in the States.

JOHN BULL.

To Mr. G. J. Hill, Ilford, Essex.

SIR,—After that little affair in the Divorce Court, when it was stated that you had not spoken to your lawful wife for the space of three years, I was hoping that, as the law could afford you no relief, you would bring common sense to bear on the situation, and chirp up a bit before Christmas. They tell me, however, that you and the missus are still playing dumb-crambo, and that your little home at Ilford is as silent as the tomb. It is no particular business of mine, of course, except that it hurts my feelings to see a fellow-creature making such a consummate ass of himself. Let's hope when you see this you'll swear. That will be something.

JOHN BULL.

To George Field Moses, Beaumont College, Windsor.

DEAR MOSES,—I suppose, strictly speaking, this is no longer your proper address, as you recently ran away from school before your seventeenth birthday, with the intention, it is said, of joining your dad in America. It was wrong, of course, to travel on the railway without a ticket, and as things turned out you got into a nasty mess; but I admire a lad of spirit, and your motive was honest enough to satisfy the Bench of Bishops. I do not want to talk about the former unhappy relations of your parents, which culminated in a divorce and separated you from your father—and in any case I am glad to see that your mother has had the good sense to assist your ambitions and pay your passage to the States. So let's hope you'll "click."

JOHN BULL.

To W. F. Tempest, Esq., J.P., Chairman of the Pontefract Magistrates.

SIR,—The Poulsons, who were recently before you, are a mining family—father, mother, and son. The son is the father of an illegitimate male child, which was brought to the house. According to the evidence, the baby was "a complete wreck"; "emaciated, dirty, and verminous"; and "whined like a kitten in pain." The place was abominably filthy, and no doubt the child would have died if he had not been taken away. You, Mr. Tempest, stated that "the Bench were of the opinion that the Poulsons deliberately intended to kill it." Only the previous day you, with other Justices of the Peace, had fined a local publican £10 for selling drink to a drunken soldier, a patient in hospital. I do not think this is so serious an offence; yet you inflicted on the publican a fine of £10 and let off these murderers by intent, as you regard them, for £3 each, and allowed them—with "heaps of money going into the house"—a month in which to pay. I am not surprised that my correspondents in your neighbourhood are shocked and angered by such farcical leniency.

JOHN BULL.

BRICKS IN MANY MILLIONS.

TRANSPORT NEEDED TO HELP HOUSE-BUILDING.

To hurry up the building of houses all sorts of desperate plans are proposed, down to giving a bonus to their builders. But even they cannot put up houses without bricks—which they are unable to secure. Yet there are bricks by the million to be had. We recently visited Fletton, by Peterborough, the centre of the brick-making industry in its most up-to-date form. There are about 20 large brick-making companies in the district, some of them employing 500 hands. Every one of the yards is crammed and packed with bricks, which cannot be got away because of insufficient railway facilities, while each post brings in numerous appeals for them from despairing builders. Out of bricks made in October only, one firm had 10,000,000 left on its hands. Each company could materially increase its output; instead of that, the vast accumulation of stocks compel them to restrict it. Some will probably have to close down within a few weeks and cease making, for want of room to carry on. They are crowded out. The Railway Companies blame the wagon-makers, and say they cannot get wagons enough. Yet wagon-makers aver they are ready to deliver. Bricks cannot be carried by motor, for it would need four lorries to carry one rail-wagonload, trebling the cost of conveyance, and, of course, making the bricks much dearer. Other goods are, however, carried by rail that might conveniently go by road, and this step would ease the situation if promptly taken by the Ministry of Transport and the Railway Companies. The bricks are there at Fletton. Get them away and the housing problem is nearer solution.

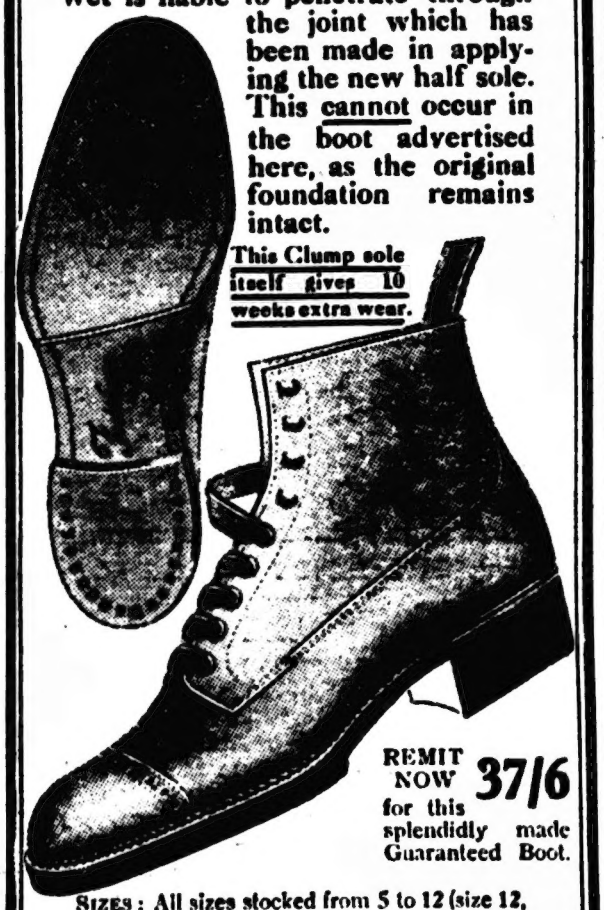
WARNING TO COMPETITORS.

INVALID PROFESSOR AS FOOTBALL EXPERT.

Followers of our Football Competitions will be interested in the proposals of Professor A. M. Alexander, M.A., of 19, Ranelagh Villas, Hove, the latest individual to come forward as an "expert solutionist" with a wonderful "system" for winning the big prizes. An Army officer, whose name and address had appeared in the London newspapers in connection with a regimental dinner, was favoured with a confidential letter from Professor Alexander, offering for a sum of £75, payable in advance, to put him in the way of making his fortune. In response to a request for further particulars, Mr. Alexander gave an undertaking in writing that, on receipt of the officer's cheque for £75, he would expend £16 13s. 4d. on the purchase of copies of this journal, and in exchange for the balance of £58 6s. 8d. forward 2,000 coupons filled up in accordance with his "invincible system" and "on a mathematical and scientific basis." Needless to say, this impudent proposal was declined. It remains only to remark that if our "Football Competitions" turned simply on luck, instead of on skill and judgment—in which case, of course, they would be illegal—the more different solutions sent in, the better chance a competitor would stand—although, even in that event it would be quite easy for any person of ordinary intelligence to fill up the forms himself, without engaging the services of a "Professor of Mathematics," at a cost of £58. The main point is, however, that these competitions are a test of skill in estimating the prospects of the rival teams, and the competitor with a sound knowledge of football "form" has as good a chance with one or two coupons as with a larger number. Therefore, while sympathising with Professor Alexander in the "spinal complaints" on which in his letter he lays emphasis, we have regretfully to advise our readers to avoid all dealings with him.

BOOT ECONOMY
STRIKING INNOVATION

The illustration represents a DOUBLE SOLE BOOT—in other words, ECONOMY in its true sense. The boot itself is constructed from solid leather, the upper being specially selected Box Calf. The additional sole which is fitted, although rendering it eminently suitable for the winter weather, does not add appreciably to the weight, and abounds in good points. No matter how many times new soles are attached, the foundation of the boot remains undisturbed, the rigidity being maintained, and, unlike ordinary footwear, fresh "Clump" soles can be affixed so long as the other parts remain good. Contrast this with the single sole. During process of repairs, the foundation has necessarily to be mutilated, which eventually causes the boot to break down and be discarded, in addition to which the wet is liable to penetrate through the joint which has been made in applying the new half sole. This cannot occur in the boot advertised here, as the original foundation remains intact.



This Clump sole itself gives 10 weeks extra wear.

REMIT NOW 37/6 for this splendidly made Guaranteed Boot.

SIZES: All sizes stocked from 5 to 12 (size 12, 1/- extra). Each size made in four different widths: narrow, medium, wide and extra wide. If size is not known, send pencilled outline of stockinged foot. Boots exchanged or money refunded if unsuitable.

SPECIAL SHOW this week at London Depots:
86, Oxford Street, W.
21 & 22, Cheapside, E.C.
67, Fenchurch St., E.C.
166, Strand W.C.
285, High Holborn, W.C.
12, Tottenham Ct. Rd., W.

Send 3d. for our beautifully Illustrated Catalogue of Ladies', Gent's, and Children's footwear.

W. BARRATT & Co., Ltd.
"Footshape" Boot Works, NORTHAMPTON.

RELEASE FROM SLAVERY.

STRIKING RESULT OF A "JOHN BULL" EXPOSURE

In our issue of October 25th, under the heading "An Outrage on Nature," we described the unavailing efforts of a mother to get into touch with her only child, a young girl named Vivien Perry, who, after a long period of detention at the Princess Mary Village Homes Industrial School, Addlestone, Surrey, had been boarded out to service in Westmorland. Formerly a widow, the mother had recently married an Australian soldier, whose desire it was to adopt the child as his own, and give her a fair start in happier surroundings. With incredible hardihood, the Industrial School officials invited the parents to believe that the youngster preferred to remain where she was as a domestic drudge on a North Country farm, that she had no desire to escape from her miserable servitude, and that she was unwilling to rejoin her mother and taste the excitement of a new life. However, since the publication of our article a wonderful change has come over the scene. The girl now writes to her mother in joyous anticipation of her early home-coming, her last letter being in startling contrast to the wooden products of official inspiration formerly palmed off upon the parents as authentic communications from "your daughter Vivien." Scarcely less interesting are the efforts of the Industrial School gaolers to justify their former attitude. "As Vivien now wishes to come to you," writes the Superintendent, "we shall raise no objection to her doing so, but you will understand that as long as she desired not to, we should of course stand by her and not try to persuade her to do what she so obviously objected to." 'M'yes, perhaps! But it's wonderful the virtue there is in six inches of cold print!

ARE YOU A PANEL PATIENT?

HEALTH MINISTRY'S SHORTSIGHTED REGULATIONS.

In our criticism of the National Health Insurance Act—that "white elephant" of modern legislation—we have always taken the line that anything which injuriously affects the interests of the panel doctors is calculated in the long run to damage their patients as well. Consequently, we have no hesitation in inviting our readers' attention to the new Regulations for panel service issued by the Ministry of Health, some of which threaten serious injustice to State Insurance practitioners, who, in negotiation with the Ministry, appear to have got the worst of the deal. To begin with a point of direct interest to patients, panel doctors are not for the future to be permitted to use the magic words "Rep. Mist."—which is abbreviated Latin for "Repeat the mixture"—in their prescriptions, but, however many times the same medicine is repeated, must re-write the whole prescription as often as the patient "asks for more." The idea is, we suppose, that if a doctor has to turn up his prescription book and write out the whole of the item afresh, he will be likely to make less continuous demands upon the Drug Fund than if a mere "Rep. Mist." is sufficient to procure a fresh bottle of physic from the chemist; but, from the patients' standpoint, there is a danger that the doctor may be too busy during the rush of surgery practice to think out a complete prescription, or to recall the exact details of the mixture that "touched the spot." Another matter of interest to patients is the new Regulation which practically destroys the marketable "goodwill" of a panel practice by fixing a three years' limit, after which its transfer value will be virtually surrendered to the State. Seeing that the goodwill of a medical practice depends so largely upon the doctor's kindly and efficient treatment of his patients, it is to be feared that the change may not be altogether to the advantage of the enslaved contributor to the State Insurance Scheme.

"PUSSYFOOT"—STARTLING REVELATIONS.

NATIONAL DANGER OF PROHIBITION—REAPING THE WHIRLWIND IN AMERICA.

By CHARLES PALMER.

THIS is no time for soft words. We are all sorry—deeply and sincerely sorry—for Mr. "Pussyfoot" Johnson in the loss of his eye—the outcome of a wanton outrage. But his partial blindness must not blind us to the perils of Prohibition. I shall have something to say later concerning the unjustifiable interference of the outsider in our domestic concerns—for it is something of an outrage that American "eloquence" and American money should be spent in attempting to force American methods on the British people. But first let me deal with the effects of Prohibition on the United States' national and economic effects. I know it is said that making America "dry" has bred the dope fiend. That is a social result which for the moment does not concern me, although I would rather see a man drunk on good beer than dazed and degenerated by drugs. What is the result of making America "dry"? Is there any doubt that the era of violence in Labour disputes, which has started on the other side, is mainly if not solely due to the insensate policy of depriving the working man of his liquor?

It is vulgar, I know, to write in this strain. You may talk of champagne and liqueurs, but beer—it isn't good form! And yet beer, and the right of the individual to drink what he likes, is the very bed-rock of the national peace. You may deplore it, Mr. Pussyfoot; Mr. Chadband, you may throw up your hands in holy horror. But it is gospel truth. Mr. Gompers, as every working man knows, is the President of the American Federation of Labour; the most powerful man in the real Labour movement of America. He was asked, the other day, to say whether Prohibition and the consequent restriction of personal liberty had acted as an incentive to unrest among working men. This is his answer:

> I have always contended that the foisting of Prohibition on this country was a blunder—a blunder charged with danger and loaded with disastrous probabilities. The present is a most unfortunate movement to further upset a country by an invasion of personal liberty. By adopting Prohibition we have chanced the wrecking of the social and economic fabric of the nation. We have invaded the habits of the working man, and this is what has happened: We have upset that man, unsettled him. Uprooting one habit uproots others. The man, who until now has been satisfied to labour as he had been labouring, to go home at night to converse and read, has become discontented and restive. Instead of sitting down over his pitcher of beer, he goes into the streets to meet other men restless and unsettled like himself. They rub together their mutual grievances and there are sparks and sometimes fire.

At the present moment, America is in the throes of Labour troubles far more violent than any that have ever been experienced in this country. Only the other day I received a letter from America from a personal friend who is on a visit to the States. "America has gone 'dry,' and if this land of the brave and the home of the free does not take care, it will move towards the same fate as Russia—consequent on going 'dry.' Industrially things are damn bad over here. Riots and shootings are of every day occurrence." That was written just a month ago. See how it is confirmed by Mr. Gompers:

> I believe Bolshevism in Russia began in Prohibition. Powerful as was vodka, in it the Russian found relief from the dull monotony of his life. Without it, torment and troubles rose before, and he was seized with the desire to tear down that which he could never rebuild. Is Prohibition worth such a price? The apostles of Bolshevism in this country are seizing Prohibition as a mighty weapon to force into their ranks the foreign-born peoples of the United States who have been accustomed to the use of beer and light wine. They go to these people in their homes, factories, mines and unions and say: "Look here, this is what Congress has done for you! It has taken away your glass of beer!" This may sound small, but to people accustomed to light spirits it is a constant source of discontent and nagging. It irritates, annoys and unsettles. It places them in receptive mood for the deadlier propaganda that is sure to follow.

So much for the effects of Prohibition. These are revelations sufficiently startling. They show that the way to foster the Soviet idea is to interfere with individual liberty through Prohibition. There is grave trouble in America. Do we want it here? And, what is more, shall we tolerate the methods by which the "Pussyfoots" fastened their poisonous claws upon the body politic of the United States? If I know my countrymen, they will cry "Hands (or claws) off! We will not be dictated to or influenced by Transatlantic fanatics." Read this about "Pussyfoot" methods, and how politicians were blackmailed into voting for Prohibition—written by a man who knows his facts, and printed the other day, in the *Morning Post*. He tells us that the masterpiece of the "Pussyfoot" campaign in America was what might be called the Big Bertha of their equipment—a card index of politicians:—

> The politicians and office-holders of America are not generally drawn from the highest ranks of the community. It is unfortunately true that a large number of them, if their careers were carefully investigated, would be found to have some skeleton in their cupboard. All these cases were probed to the bottom by an army of skilled investigators. They were described and systematised for use in the work of inducing Legislatures to vote for Prohibition. By such means a large number of politicians in every Legislature were completely at the command of the Anti-Saloon League. So successful are these methods that politicians have often been compelled to vote against the expressed wishes of their constituents. Thus, for example, the States of California, Maryland, New York, and Massachusetts all voted for the Prohibition amendment to the Constitution, although their electorates had only a short time before shown their opposition to Prohibition at the polls.

I am one of those who think there is room for improvement in the matter of our public-houses. I am not sure that some of the war-time restrictions should be removed, but I am sure that it would be a gross betrayal to fasten them on the nation without the nation's consent. We tolerated many things for the sake of the war and victory—we will not tolerate any trickery on the part of the Government, or any attempt to curtail our liberties at the dictate of faddists. But all these matters are our concern, and it is well to warn the "Pussyfoots" that we will not have them at any price. They have jeopardised the industrial peace of America—they shall not be permitted to preach their dangerous propaganda here. The more we know about them, the more hateful do they appear. Their methods are detestable; they are foreign to the decencies of our public life. Their efforts have brought Bolshevism and social upheaval in the States. Let the Government which has proclaimed Sinn-Fein proclaim the "Pussyfoots." I say it in all seriousness: they are a peril to the State.

A CLOSED BOOK

SHARING OUT MONEY SUBSCRIBED FOR CHARITY.

A certain air of mystery surrounds the closing of a fund raised to aid distressed hotel and boarding-house keepers on the East Coast, when their businesses suffered because of bombardment from sea and air. The Organising Secretary was Mr. S. Rawlings, formerly of 116, now of 9, Victoria Street, Westminster. In December, 1917, a lady received one of his appeals, and collected £3. She heard no more about the Fund until, much to her surprise, on November 3, 1919, Mr. Rawlings wrote:—"In accordance with instructions received from the Charity Commission I am requested to close the above Fund, and therefore send you cheque herewith, being your share of the balance of cash in hand." Enclosed was a cheque for 12s. Now, the lady wanted no "share" of a fund supposed to be raised for a purely charitable purpose. There should not have been any to share out. As a subscriber and collector for the Fund, she would have preferred to receive a balance-sheet showing what had become of the rest of the money, what the total was, how much went to the distressed people on the East Coast, and who, in addition to Mr. S. Rawlings, had the handling of it. And we confess that we share her sentiments.

THE HAPPY MAJORITY.

UNEMPLOYMENT PAY AND A STRIKE.

There is a curious rule of the Ministry of Labour in connection with the iron-moulders' strike and the unemployment benefit. It is a rule imposed on the Ministry by Act of Parliament, but it seems to work out with some unfairness. The strike being a "trade dispute," the labourers on the premises get no donation, but the engineers receive it. Yet they all work under the same roof, and are thrown out by the same strike. In Bury, for instance, there are about 150 penalised labourers, and some 2,000 luckier engineers. Under the National Insurance Act, in the case of a strike every worker at the factory is disqualified from benefit. But the Act makes an exception—if separate branches of the work are carried on in separate premises as separate businesses, each of those departments is considered as a separate workshop or factory. In the case of the moulders' strike, it has been officially held that the foundry is a separate business, and so the men in the pattern shop and engineering shop are not disqualified from benefit. We do not know whether this official ruling, strictly according to the Act, will make the disqualified labourers any happier. Nor, we confess, does it appear to us remarkably clear or fair.

OUR CHRISTMAS POOR FUND.

YULETIDE GIFTS FOR THE LONDON POOR.

For some years past it has been our habit to appeal to the generosity of our readers to enable us, during the Christmas season, to distribute gifts of food, clothing, toys, etc., amongst the London poor. Our system has been to apply money entrusted to us in the purchase of meat, bread, groceries, coal, etc., by means of orders upon local tradesman, thus enabling the recipients to enjoy the food and fuel and other comforts in their own homes, with their families—as we are sure our readers desire.

We also appeal for left-off and unwanted clothing of all shapes and sizes. A band of willing workers will carefully sort the articles into suitable lots. Toys, too—however old—are always welcome for the little ones, and the same remark applies to oranges, sweets, crackers—in short, to anything likely to bring a little happiness and sunshine during Christmas time into the homes of the poor.

Every subscription and gift will be gratefully received, and acknowledged.

Subscriptions should be forwarded direct to our Offices, 93, Long Acre, London, W.C.2., but all parcels of goods, etc., should be sent to the JOHN BULL Depot, 25, Church Road, Homerton, E.9.

Please help us.

AN AMAZING RECORD.

"DEMOBBED" MAN'S ACHIEVEMENT.

LABOURER TO MANAGER IN FIVE MONTHS.

ONE of the most interesting business stories ever told is given to-day in a few words, by a man who was only released from the Army last Spring.

As an example of rapid and brilliant success his experience is probably unique, and is a pleasant contrast to the difficulties which so many "demobbed" officers and men have found in the way of regaining their lost footing in the business world.

We give the story in the writer's own words:—

"'Demobbed' in March; commenced work as a labourer in a trade entirely foreign to me "in June: saw that the firm wanted someone in the office with a grasp of detail: applied for a "transfer: was started as Junior Clerk, but in the course of a few months was unofficially "Sales Manager: recently was sent down to X—— to organise a depot and push the firm's "trade.

"I am succeeding where two of my predecessors failed. I attribute the major part of my success to the introduction of Pelman methods in *all* my work—*and* play.

Such a letter needs no comment. It emphasises all that has been said and claimed for Pelmanism during the past years. It is only *one* of thousands of remarkable letters received by the Pelman Institute from those who have adopted and benefited by Pelmanism.

500,000 ENROLLED.

Interesting Letters.

Over 500,000 men and women are now Pelmanists, and every day brings fresh and astonishing evidence of the value of the training as a means of bettering one's position in business or professional life.

Some of these reports which have been published would seem to border on the marvellous, but they are *true*: the originals of all the letters are preserved by the Pelman Institute.

Pelmanists *invariably* succeed: they *invariably* progress and gain better positions: they *invariably* secure larger incomes. The basis of Pelmanism is so sound, so essentially practical and common-sense, so scientifically *right*, that progress follows as a mere matter of course. It is impossible to study the Pelman Course and *not* benefit—a sweeping assertion, but one which is borne out by facts.

A very large number of the reports from those who had completed the Pelman Course were recently analysed, when it was found **that the percentage of Pelmanists who had failed to benefit in one way or another was actually less than one per thousand!**

No other system of training in the world has ever yet supplied such magnificent evidence of its value and resultfulness.

ENROLMENTS EN MASSE.

Impressed by these and kindred facts—and impressed, too, by their own personal observation of the increased capacity displayed by Pelmanists in their employ, many far-seeing employers have paid for a Pelman Course for a dozen, a score, for fifty, or in some cases a hundred or more of their staffs.

Here is an example of the way in which Pelmanism makes its advantages apparent:—

A business man writes (on Nov. 1, 1919):—"I am on exceedingly good terms with myself for having taken a Pelman Course, for my employer, a most exacting man, called me into his office a few days ago, and told me that he had noticed a change in my way of working, and that he intended to give me more responsibility, and so ease his own vast amount of work.

"I am pleased to say he confirmed this and *gave me a substantial increase in salary*, with the assurance that as I had become more useful he would pay me accordingly."

And this particular Pelmanist, it may be added, had not got through more than *half* the Course at the time.

Many men and women have recorded progress of this kind even after the first or second lessons.

It is easy to be sceptical when reading of salaries doubled, trebled, or quadrupled as a direct result of Pelmanising: but the facts stand mountain high in evidence against the sceptic. There are literally thousands of letters of the same character as the foregoing in the records of the Pelman Institute.

Smart business men and women, however, understand the value of this evidence, and their opinion of Pelmanism as an aid to personal prosperity may be best judged from the fact that in a single quarter of the present year (1919) the whole average *yearly* total of enrolments during the war period has been easily surpassed.

Pelmanism certainly "boomed" during the war, yet its rate of progress has actually quadrupled since the Armistice.

WHAT ARE THE RESULTS?

Here, in brief, are some of the results reported by men and women of all classes who have taken up the Pelman Course:

"Rise of £145 in salary."	(Salesman.)
"My Income is trebled."	(Architect.)
"Doubled my turnover."	(Manager.)
"Salary raised 50 p.c."	(Clerk.)
"Salary improved over 300 p.c."	(Position not stated.)
"Salary raised 25 p.c."	(Bank Clerk.)
"Made £1,000 in 3 months."	(Business Man.)
"Increased turnover and salary."	(Manager.)
"Business has increased considerably."	(Retailer.)
"Added £80 to my commission account."	(Salesman.)
"The means of making my income double."	(Solicitor.)
"Placed my practice on a satisfactory basis."	(Doctor.)
"Promoted to the highest position."	(Civil Servant.)
"I have just had a 40 p.c. rise."	(Bookkeeper.)
"Greatest increase in business."	(Shopkeeper.)
"Turnover has beaten all records."	(Retail Manager.)
"Literary Prize of £250."	(Journalist.)
"Six-fold increase in my income."	(Professional Man.)

Thus in every possible direction, for every class and grade in business and professional life, Pelmanism is "making good" and richly rewarding those who have not grudged to spend a little time and work upon their own betterment.

And what is the cost? Half an hour or so devoted each evening for a few weeks to the most fascinating course of study it is possible to imagine: study which at every page opens new possibilities to you, reveals new ideas, indicates new roads.

Pelmanism is no humdrum study, but a positive mental recreation; affording intense delight and satisfaction. Both men and women become positively enthusiastic about the Course, and express their regret when it ends.

Pelmanism, in a word, helps the successful attainment of every object for which men and women strive—financial gain, business promotion, professional distinction, social advancement, intellectual development, new interests, enlarged activities, everything, in short, which is implied in the word "Success."

There are literally no ambitions to the realisation of which Pelmanism cannot materially contribute—no conceivable position or occupation in which a Pelman is not a most valuable asset. As a student of Pelmanism recently wrote: "*If people only knew, the doors of the Pelman Institute would be literally besieged by eager applicants.*"

Then, apart from the mere money-making side of it, Pelmanism is well "worth while," for its advantages in social and intellectual directions attract large numbers of men and women who, having made money, now desire to "make" themselves. That is a phase of the matter deserving of consideration; money may be no object to you, but do you not desire to gain social or intellectual distinction; having gained the means of living well, do you not wish to enlarge your horizon in life?

Who takes the Pelman Course? Literally, all sorts and conditions of people. Here are some of the enrolments recently made in the course of a few days.

94	Accountants and Auditors.
6	Architects.
17	Authors and Journalists.
70	Artists and Draughtsmen.
3	Auctioneers.
57	Bank Officials.
13	Barristers and Solicitors.
664	Clerks (M. and F.).
30	Clergymen.
52	Civil Service Officials.
17	Chemists.
26	Customs and Other Govt. Officials.
22	Doctors.
5	Dentists.
216	Directors and Managers.
25	Electricians.
199	Engineers.
29	Insurance Agents.
2	Magistrates.
23	Musicians.
413	Miners, Artificers, etc.
55	Nurses.
86	Officers (Navy and Army).
28	Police.
51	Railwaymen.
127	Salesmen.
5	Scientists.
143	Students.
100	Shopkeepers.
20	Surveyors.
68	Secretaries.
7	Stockbrokers.
137	Teachers, Tutors, etc.

REDUCED FEE OFFER.

Write or call to-day and thus secure the benefit of the specially reduced fees which the Institute offers at present. A full description of the Course (with Synopsis of the lessons) is given in "Mind and Memory," and a free copy of this, together with an unabridged reprint of *Truth's* famous Report on the work of the Pelman Institute, and a copy of Sir Arthur Quiller-Couch's interesting and candid treatise upon the subject will be sent post free to all who send a postcard (or the attached coupon) to The Pelman Institute, 15, Pelman House, Bloomsbury Street, London, W.C.1.

SEND THIS COUPON OR CALL TO-DAY.

To the PELMAN INSTITUTE,
15, Pelman House, Bloomsbury Street, London, W.C.1.

Sir,—Please send me, gratis and post free, a copy of the book, "Mind and Memory," a copy of *Truth's* latest Report, and particulars of the Offer entitling me to take the Pelman Course on specially reduced terms.

Name.....

Address.....

.....

ALL CORRESPONDENCE IS CONFIDENTIAL.

The NATIONAL NEWS takes national views—every Sunday.

A SHIP ON FIRE.

SOLDIER'S LETTER AND STARTLING SEQUEL.

Our mail on Nov. 24 contained a communication from one of the R.A.S.C., and there was such a startling sequel to it within three days that we reproduce the writer's own words:—

> This morning's papers tell me that the s.s. *Prinz Rubertus*, with cargo of copra, is on fire at the Royal Albert Docks. I landed on Monday last at Southampton, from Basra, after 34 days on the water on s.s. *Swakopmund*, also laden with copra. Throughout the journey severe restrictions were imposed upon all ranks re smoking 'tween decks and upon hatchways, owing to the inflammable nature of the cargo. Yet there were five troop decks without a chemical extinguisher of any description to cope with any minor outbreak which might have occurred. Certainly all's well that ends well, but it does seem a bit off that troops should be sent on a boat with such a cargo and practically no means of fighting fire should an outbreak occur.
>
> *P.S.*—s.s. *Swakopmund* is now discharging either Tilbury or London.

That, it will be admitted, is a sensible warning and complaint by an observant man. Swift upon its receipt came dreadful corroboration. We were actually reading that letter for the second time when the morning newspapers arrived, and our eye at once caught sight of this in the *Daily Express* of Nov. 28:—

> A serious fire occurred yesterday in one of the German liners in British hands—the second this week—and the vessel involved, the *Swakopmund*, now lies submerged at her berth at No. 4 jetty in Victoria Docks. Her cargo, principally copra, is completely destroyed, but the ship, unlike the *Prinz Rubertus* earlier in the week, though considerably damaged, will not be a total loss. Flames burst out suddenly from the *Swakopmund*'s No. 3 hold, from which cargo was being discharged, and owing to the inflammable nature of the copra, spread rapidly.

One wonders what might have happened—and the paper goes on to tell us: "ordinary means" could not save the ship, so her "after-part was promptly submerged" in dock. Had the fire happened at sea every life would have been in peril, every life might have been lost. The vessel was under the jurisdiction of the Shipping Controller, and we present him with this full story and its remarkable sequel in corroboration, in the hope that he will take the lesson seriously to heart.

THE PANGS OF POVERTY.

TRUMPED UP CHARGE AGAINST DEAD SOLDIER'S MOTHER.

Going round with a barrel-organ may be classed as a "dangerous occupation." The danger arises principally from police interference, and in their attacks upon the mendicant musician the forces of Law and Order are occasionally deaf to the appeal of compassion. A moving case was that of a woman recently prosecuted at Brentford for "Obtaining charity by false pretences." The poor soul was in distressing circumstances, having, so to speak, been twice widowed—reduced to poverty by the loss of her husband, a member of the Metropolitan Police Force, and bereaved afresh through the sacrifice of a son in the war. Seven years ago, on the death of his father, a younger son of the widow's was admitted to the Police Orphanage at Twickenham, from which, two years later, he was removed to one of the London hospitals, completely broken in health. Finally discharged as incurable, this poor boy was sent home to his mother, and frankly with the idea of stimulating public sympathy, he took to the streets with the organ, to which was attached a printed card giving particulars of his hopeless career, together with a photograph of his father in the uniform of the Metropolitan Police.

The first hint of trouble was when a lynx-eyed Inspector of Police discovered that in one particular the printed statement was erroneous, or at any rate not susceptible of proof. It was alleged that at the Police Orphanage the boy had met with an "accident," and although this statement represented the mother's sincere conviction she was not in a position to establish its truth. On this slender pretext the widow and her invalided boy were summoned to the Brentford Police Court, where, although she strenuously, and as we believe quite honestly, protested her innocence of any intention to deceive the public, she was fined £5. As neither she nor her son are in a fit state of health to undertake regular labour, and the result of these proceedings has been to inspire them with such a fear of the police that they are afraid to take out their organ, there seems no refuge but the Workhouse. Life, at times, is terribly hard for the poor.

STARVATION PENSIONS.

PRACTICAL REMEDIES DEMANDING ADOPTION.

While the Government are considering the Report of the Departmental Committee that has recommended an increase in the Old Age Pension, many of the poor old pensioners are starving, some of them actually dying of hunger. Last June was issued the latest number of the periodical White Paper dealing with "Deaths from Starvation or Accelerated by Privation in England and Wales," the comparatively short list including two persons over the age of 70, who had vainly striven to keep body and soul together on the State pittance of 7s. 6d. weekly. But where there is one case of this sort that comes before a Coroner's jury—and these are included in the above Return—there are scores in which the effort to subsist upon the Old Age Pension, and avoid the stigma of Poor Law relief, means an exhausting struggle.

Recognising this distressing fact, one Board of Guardians has adopted a humane course which may well serve as an example to the Poor Law Authorities generally. Obviously 7s. 6d. weekly is not enough to keep a man or woman in health, even if actual starvation be averted; so in this one case, at least, meat, beef tea, milk, etc., as ordered by the doctor, has been distributed among the most needy pensioners to the value on an average of about 4s. weekly. Being in the nature of "medical relief," this grant does not entail the forfeiture of the Old Age Pension, and none of the ratepayers surely will begrudge the poor old folks this slight measure of assistance in their cruel struggle with adversity. Meanwhile, the Government must lose no time in bringing the Pensions at least up to the level of their pre-war purchasing power—little enough, even then, to comfort the poor old folks in the evening of their days.

No effort on our part—whether by action in the House of Commons or advocacy in the columns of this journal—will be spared to bring about so urgent and merciful a reform. The cold weather is upon us, and it needs little in the way of imagination to conjure up the pitiful plight of the poor old folk endeavouring to maintain the last feeble flickerings of the vital flame, with food and clothing at their present prices.

"JOHN BULL'S" WEEKLY CINEMA.

Prince David, on his latest trip,
Displayed no little statesmanship.

Will Italy's brave King prevail,
Against the foes who him assail?

Donation, dole, and subsidy,
Lloyd George dispenses lavishly.

The men who knew not how to shirk,
But fought and bled, appeal for work!

The way to swell war profits still,
Is purchasing a cotton mill.

George Robey's plan for helping Bart's,
Appeals to charitable hearts.

A judge who's never used the Tube,
In Yankee phrase we call a "boob."

Owners henceforth, on racing courses,
In their own names must run their horses.

The Cocoa Nibs.
Adventure No. 6.

Frozen

The Village Pump stood in the street,
With bandages from head to feet.
It had big chilblains on its toes,
And icicles upon its nose.

The Nibs produced a steaming cup,
And told the Pump to drink it up;
And shortly afterwards they saw
The icicles begin to thaw. R. ARKELL.

(*To be continued.*)

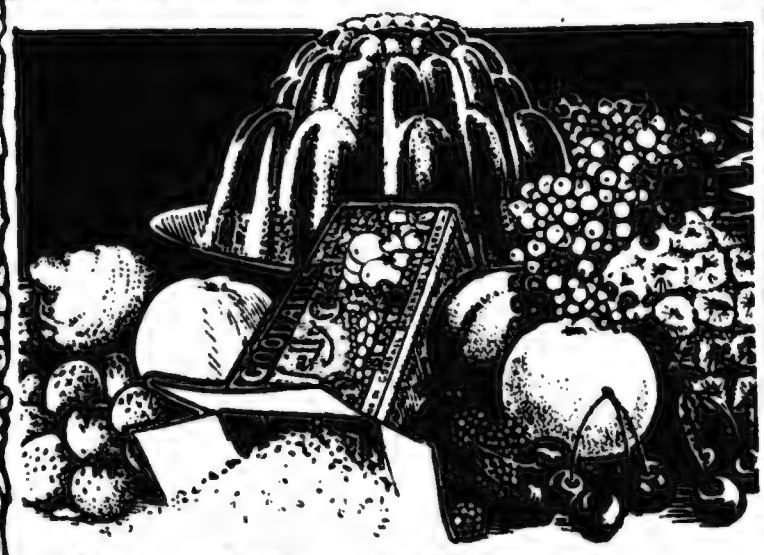
IF you have to stand for a tram or a train you will find Rowntree's Cocoa keep you "warm to the tips of your fingers." Take it *before* going out in the cold. It is far better not to become cold than to warm yourself up afterwards. *Rowntree's Cocoa gives a warmth that lasts.* It warms from within, because the nourishment it contains helps to keep up the temperature of the body.

Rowntree's Cocoa for breakfast is just the thing for raw wintry mornings.

Rowntree's Cocoa

ELECT

"WARMS AND CHEERS."



The Most Perfect Fruit Flavours You ever Tasted

Delicious, luscious, wholesome fruit, fresh and perfect, ripened by the gorgeous summer sun till their exquisite flavours are at the best. Strawberries, Apricots, Cherries, Lemons, Blackberries—glorious fruit, the pick of nature's basket—yield their rich flavours, under Goodall's perfected process, that you may have a delightful dish replete with nature's own flavour. Because each tiny crystal in Goodall's Jelly Crystals is quite complete in itself, with its own quota of perfect flavour, every jelly is evenly flavoured throughout — you don't get a patchy flavour with Goodall's Jelly Crystals.

GOODALL'S Jelly Crystals

PINT PACKETS 9d. AT ALL GROCERS.

GOODALL'S EGG POWDER

Save three fourths of the cost of eggs—yet make your puddings, pastry, cakes, etc., as light, delicious and wholesome as if you had used only the finest new-laid eggs.

Large Packets, 1½d.
Tins, 8d. and 1/4.

GOODALL'S CUSTARD POWDER

Beautiful Creamy Custard, delicious and nourishing. This is the kind of custard you should make and the kind you will make with Goodall's Custard Powder.

Packets 7½d. and 1/3
(And in large tins.)

Yorkshire Relish

Just a few drops will make all the difference in the world between an ordinary dish and one of delicious tastiness. Its unique piquancy is delightful with almost every kind of meat, fish or fowl, hot or cold.

Prices 10½d., 1/9 and 3/6 per bottle from your Grocer.

GOODALL, BACKHOUSE & CO., LEEDS.

Sole Proprietors of Yorkshire Relish.

TO THE TRADE

The National Window-Dressing Competition.

All the above lines are eligible for displays in connection with the "John Bull" Window-dressing Competition, and we shall be glad to assist any competitor by sending showcards, cartons or other display material on request.

GOODALL, BACKHOUSE & CO.

PENNIES FOR YOU

Your Grocer will be glad to pay you 1d. for each empty Yorkshire Relish bottle you return. See how many you can find,—take them to your grocer to-day and turn them into money.

A GENUINE W.R.A.F. GRIEVANCE.

SAD PLIGHT OF AN INJURED GIRL DRIVER.

Some little time ago a girl motor driver in the Women's Royal Air Force at the Shawbury Aerodrome, Shrewsbury, met with a nasty accident in the course of her duty, sustaining injuries to her wrist and a broken collar-bone. At the earliest possible moment she submitted herself to treatment at the hands of the R.A.F. Medical Officer at Shawbury, who, after administering what was really no more than first-aid treatment, put the girl into a motor-car and packed her off to her lodgings at Shrewsbury, a distance of eight miles. In these circumstances, and having received no proper instructions from the M.O., the girl, whose home was in Dublin, very rightly placed herself under the care of a civil doctor, and for 15 days she remained in her lodgings at Shrewsbury—suffering considerable pain from lack of proper nursing attention—without so much as a civil inquiry from the authorities at the Shawbury Aerodrome. Meanwhile, the girl's father, hearing of her plight, had come over from Dublin to look into matters for himself, and, finding his daughter in want of skilled attention, he applied to the R.A.F. officials for permission to take her across to Ireland until such time as she might be fit to resume her duties. It does not appear that the authorities offered any objection to this course, but they have refused to repay him the sum of £11 5s. expended on medical treatment in Dublin, or even to recognise a claim of £3 13s. from the doctor at Shrewsbury. It would be interesting to know upon what grounds the R.A.F. authorities thus repudiate all responsibility for injuries received in the service of the Crown.

MORE TROOPSHIP SCANDALS.

OFFICIAL EFFORT TO HIDE THE UGLY TRUTH.

The episode in which a number of Australian soldiers refused to sail from Tilbury Dock on the troopship *Waimana*, owing to the scandalous conditions under which it was proposed to accommodate their wives and children, has been concluded by an official "explanation" from the Ministry of Shipping. The trouble arose, it is stated, through the men's mistaken belief that the *Waimana* was fitted with second-class accommodation, whereas she was, in fact, "prepared as a third-class family ship." Unfortunately, this simple account of the matter does not fit the facts—the truth being that, on the date fixed for her departure, the *Waimana* was found to be in such a shockingly overcrowded, dirty, and insanitary condition as to be unfit for the simplest requirements of ocean travel. The cabin accommodation was so inadequate that it was proposed to cram six women and four babies into a single small compartment; while in the bathrooms and lavatories there was such a scarcity of water as not merely to hinder the common needs of cleanliness, but seriously to threaten the health of the passengers. It is not perhaps to be expected that the Ministry of Shipping should include these unpleasant facts in its official statement, but it is as well that the truth should be told. In many respects the conditions in which soldiers from overseas with their wives and children are expected to make the return journey to their homes are positively indecent; while in some other cases, as for instance on the homeward voyage from India, there is serious cause of complaint. In this latter connection matters that call for inquiry are the poor quality of the food supplied—*e.g.*, the complete absence of sugar on a voyage from Calcutta to Marseilles—and the excessive prices charged for tobacco and cigarettes understood to be free from duty. While commending these matters to the notice of the Ministry of Shipping, we venture to suggest that for the future they should take the pains to make their explanation" square with the acknowledged facts.

PALATIAL PORTBURY.

SHIPBUILDING YARD THAT BUILDS NO SHIPS.

About eight miles from Bristol, at Portbury, is one of those curiosities known as Government Shipbuilding Yards. Money was lavished upon it, but it was not quite completed when the Armistice came. So it has never built any ships, and does not intend to build any. There are still some workmen there, and, we believe, a number of officers busily engaged in killing time. It is probably counted now as "surplus," for it is in the market for sale. Local feeling is that Government, having gone so far and laid out so much, should not sell at a ruinous loss, but go on to build ships. Everything is ready for the work, including a specially-erected new railway station, perfect telephone and telegraph plant, and electricity brought all the way from Bristol! In fact, Portbury is described as "palatial," and it does seem a pity to waste it.

PAMPERING THE PROFESSOR.

EX-GERMAN STILL DRAWING £700 A YEAR.

To have been born a German is not always a fate over which a man need quarrel with Providence, as witness the case of Ludwig Becker, formerly Professor of Astronomy at Glasgow University, and Curator of the local Observatory. Fearing perhaps that if he remained at Glasgow he might see more stars than he could stop to count, Becker cleared out quite early in the war, and has now, it appears, departed for Germany. Questioned on the matter in Parliament, the Secretary for Scotland recently admitted that "Herr Becker"—we quote the Press report—"had been absent from his duties since March, 1916, but arrangements were made and were still in force whereby a temporary lecturer was appointed to give instruction to the students," moreover, it was "understood that Professor Becker had been in receipt of his full salary since his departure for Germany." Unless the University authorities mean to insult the patriotism of Scotland by reinstating Becker in his old position, it is incredible that they should continue to pay his salary of £700 while he disports himself on the banks of the Rhine. The Scottish Secretary tells us that "the Professor's position is under consideration," but so it has been for the last two years at least. And what about the Observatory Curatorship, which is a Government appointment? Both positions should be held by scientists of British birth.

POLICE TRICKERY.

KHAKI AND WAR RIBBONS TO TRAP A PUBLICAN.

Clothed in khaki and heavily be-ribboned, a hero of the war, accompanied by his wife, found his way to the Foxhound Inn, Brixton, Devonshire, only to be sternly told, "These are prohibited hours." "You are not looking for work, are you?" queried the barman on duty, "because we are not allowed to serve anyone after hours." In a sense the gallant war hero was "looking for work," and had already found it; as a matter of fact, he was a police officer in disguise; and so artfully did he tell the tale that, in spite of all rules and regulations, he managed to get a drink of whisky for himself and a drop of port for the missus, and a shillingsworth of spirits in a bottle to take away. At the Plympton Petty Sessions the be-ribboned soldier stood revealed as Police-Constable Barnacott of the Devon Constabulary, upon whose sworn evidence the licensee of the Foxhound Inn, Brixton, was convicted of the offences into which his agents had been trapped, and fined £12. "As one who has done his little share," writes an indignant correspondent, "I say it is damnable that our uniform and ribbons should be allowed to be used for such despicable tricks." And not a word of rebuke from the Plympton Bench!

THE PRICE OF RICE.

VILLAGE CUSTOMER PILLORIED FOR COMPLAINING.

A Kentish reader who availed himself of his right to complain to the Maidstone Rural Local Profiteering Committee about certain charges for groceries has had a curious experience. One of his complaints related to a purchase of rice from Messrs. Crowhurst and Tompsett, of Marden, and was in due course disposed of by the Committee as indicated in the following letter from the Executive Officer:—

> Your letter came before the Profiteering Committee, but as rice is not amongst the articles on the Scheduled List to which the Profiteering Act applies, no action could be taken in the matter.

This, at any rate, was an intelligible reply, and the complainant thought no more of the matter until, passing down the village street, his attention was arrested by his own name placarded in big letters in the windows of Messrs. Crowhurst and Tompsett. On closer scrutiny it appeared that the grocers had pasted up the letter they had received from the Profiteering Committee dealing with the rice complaint, a communication differing materially from that sent to the customer. Although, as the Executive Officer had pointed out, rice was not on the scheduled list, and it was therefore not within their province to inquire into the matter at all, the Committee had gone out of their way to assure the shopkeepers that they were "quite satisfied with their explanation of the price charged." Realising the advertising value of this free testimonial from the Profiteering Committee, the grocers had posted the document in their window with the name of the complainant boldly displayed, hoping no doubt by this pillorying the dissatisfied customer to deter other people from using their rights under the Act. Means should be found to stop this sort of thing.

A STRANGE FATALITY.

CHILD CRUSHED TO DEATH BY FALLING PIANO

The Coroner's inquiry into the death of a poor little mite at Deptford, who was killed at school by a piano falling upon her, seems to leave a good deal unexplained. The whole episode was of a most extraordinary nature. A piano in use at the Lucas Street Council School, Deptford, had the left rear castor missing, the headmistress, Miss Lily Whibley, stating that this defect had been noticed for some weeks. To keep the instrument level, the schoolkeeper had placed one or two loose pieces of wood under the shortened leg, and in this condition it was used on the morning of the fatal accident. The pathetic story of the child's sudden death was told by Miss Florence Upfold, a teacher in the infants' class. "At 11.55 a.m. her class, to which deceased belonged, filed up in the hall, and as she was dressing one of the children, she was struck in the back by the instrument, which she afterwards saw on the floor. It fell backwards, and when, with the assistance of another teacher, she picked it up, they saw the child underneath." The question to which, in these circumstances, the Coroner and jury had to address their minds was whether there had previously been anything to indicate the danger of the piano falling, a question that seems to have been answered in the negative, the jury finding a verdict of "Accidental Death" and the Coroner remarking that "every reasonable care had been taken." It is to be noted, however, that when the Coroner's officer and the schoolkeeper tested the piano after the accident, the instrument, as these witnesses admitted in cross-examination, "without the wood fell over two or three times into their arms." Whether to use a piano in this condition in a place where tiny tots were running around indicated "reasonable care," was a matter upon which some juries might have failed to reach a unanimous conclusion.

Expressions of Goodwill

Let the Ingersoll Radiolite carry your Christmas wishes this year. It is a gift which proves useful and practical to nearly everyone. Unlike many Christmas gifts the Ingersoll Radiolite is not put away after a few days, but will continue to tick your 1919 Christmas greetings for many years to come.

The well-known time-keeping qualities, the sturdiness of construction, the day and night service of Ingersoll Radiolites and their low price, make them ideal Christmas Gifts.

Ingersoll Radiolite

GLOWS THE TIME IN THE DARK.

There are many Ingersoll Radiolite Models, any of which you can confidently give and feel certain of the hearty welcome they will receive.

There is an Ingersoll Model for everyone from 60/- down to 15/-, including:

Ingersoll	Reliance	45/-
,,	Waterbury Radiolite ...	40/-
,,	Wrist Radiolite ...	30/-
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Ingersoll Yankee Radiolite.

Sold by high-class watch dealers throughout the Kingdom, but if your dealer cannot supply you, any Ingersoll model you wish will be sent post free upon receipt of price. Illustrated Catalogue of the full line of Ingersoll Watches post free.

INGERSOLL WATCH CO., LTD. (Dept. 353), 270, Regent Street, London, W.1.

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PURE *NEW WOOL* UNDERWEAR.

The best value obtainable in Men's All-Wool Vests & Pants

	Per Garment.
A. Full Fashioned	12/6
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Should any "ALPHA" garment shrink in washing we will replace it with a new one, provided it bears the "ALPHA" tab.

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RELIABLE AS OAK

37, Cheapside, E.C.2.
72, Wilton Rd., Victoria, S.W.
420, Edgware Road, W.2.
137, Charing Cross, W.C.
64, High Holborn, W.C.
15a, New Broad Street E.C.
Finsbury Park, N.4.
78, High Road, Kilburn, N.W.
152, High St., Clapham, S.W.4.
5-7, Highbury Corner, N.5.
119, Cheapside, E.C.2.
153, Cheapside, E.C.2.
109, King St., Hammersmith, W.
221a, Finchley Road, N.W.

Fill your case—

and treat your friends to a tenpenny cigar which only costs you twopence.

Manikins are Little Cigars

"MANIKINS"—the little twopenny cigar with the tenpenny flavour — the miniature joy-smoke—are waiting for you on your tobacconist's counter.

Good-looking, fragrant, delicious—"Manikins" please the eye and *satisfy* the taste.

They're made from little delicate leaves of choice tobaccos which are too small to be used for big-cigars. That's why "Manikins" are only 2d. each instead of tenpence.

Try a package!

They are 2d. each from your tobacconist

5 in a package for **10d.**
10 in a package for **1/8**

They are manufactured by
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Established in 1839.

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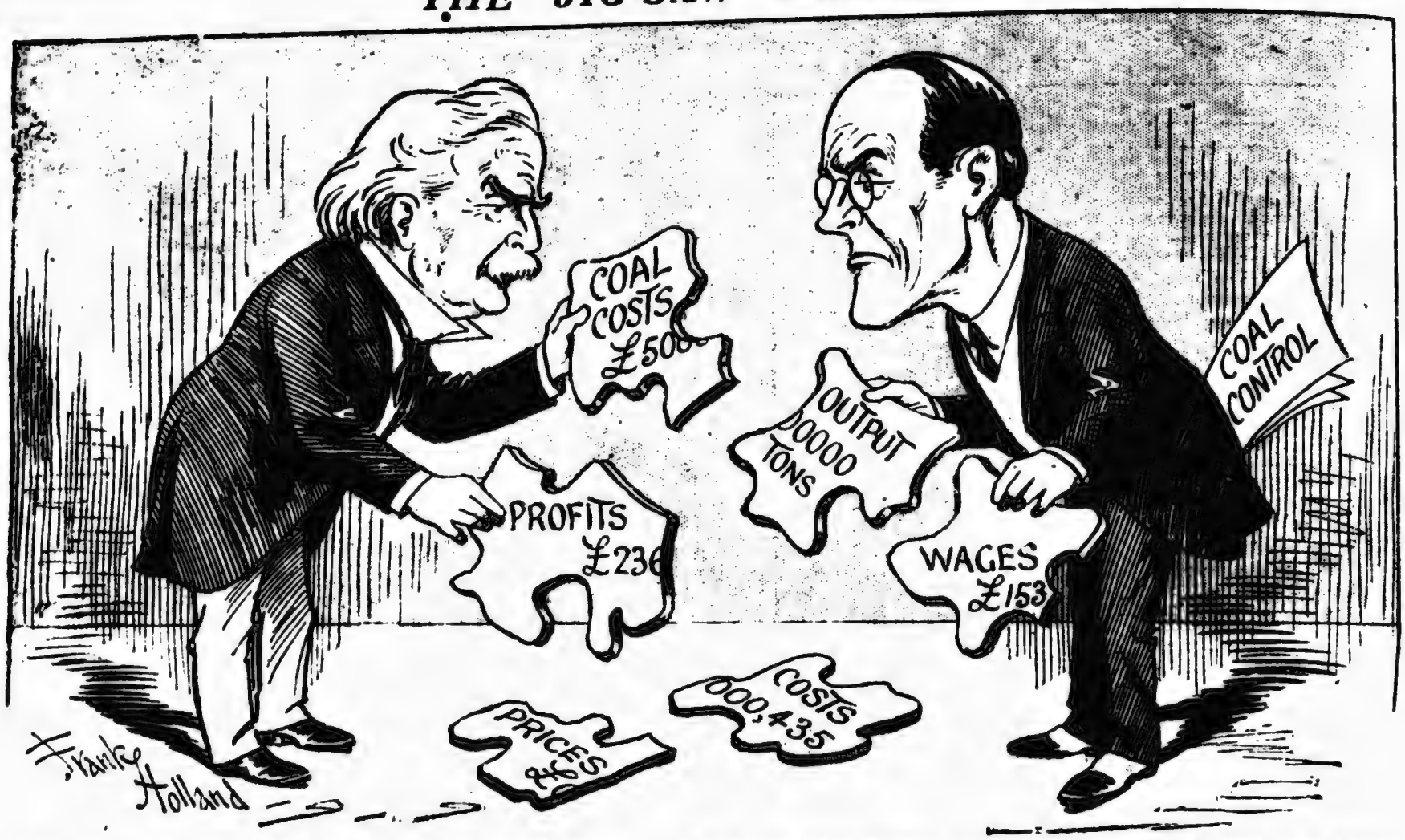
THE JIG-SAW PUZZLE.



"Tho' the facts and the figures we can't get to fit,
We don't think such little things matter a bit;
We can guess what it comes to when all's said and done—
Let's make a reduction of ten bob a ton!"

IN THE BARBER'S CHAIR.

THE PRINCE OF WALES.

Good mornin', your 'ighness! This is a honor wot I didn't expec'. . . . Oh, you 'eard about me in America, did you? 'Ow I cut President Wilson's 'air, eh? . . . Ah, thet was about twelve months ago, your 'ighness. I told 'im a few 'ome trooths, didn't I? And they've pritty near all come troo, 'aven't they? . . . Well, I'm glad to see you back, Master David, if I may be so bold. Wot can I do for you, sir? . . . Eh! . . . *Sharin'?* Did-jew say "*Sharin'*," sir? . . . Oh-er-ah-yes, to be shore. I shell be very proud to give you your first shave. . . . *Oo told me it would be your first?* Nobody, sir. I was on'y judgin' by appearance. I shell be intitled to stick the Prince o' Wales's feathers up outside me shop arfter this, sir, I s'pose? . . . *You're no objection?* Thank you kindly, your 'ighness. But I shan't 'ave the German motter on 'em, sir. No "Ich Dien" fur me. I shell 'ave plain English printed on the ribbon—"I serve." An' thet suggests a idea, your royal 'ighness. You *do* serve, an' no errer. You serve jolly well as Prince o' Wales and 'airy parent to the throne of England. Your father an' mother oughter be proud of you, me lad—I mean, your 'ighness. At the same time, I dessay they're a bit disappointed, like me, over your visit to the States. I was 'opin' it might 'ave some diplomatic results of advantage to England. But I don't see no signs of any, not at present. The Yanks seem to 'ave treated you 'andsomely, an' all thet, but it don't seem to 'ave gone no further. There's the League o' Nations gone West, fur one thing, w'ich is a plain rebuff to the Allies, an' 'spesh'lly to England. An' now the Congress or suthink 'ave refused to ratify the Peace Treaty, w'ich is more then a rebuff—it's a bloomin' insult to England, and a sorter leavin' of us in the lurch w'ile they propose to make a sorter sep'rate peace with the 'Uns. You see, sir, all their cheerin' and shoutin' and entertainin' an' flatterin' 'asn't 'ad nuthink *real* be'ind it. They're a selfish crowd, an' you was a sorter show fur them. These bloomin' Yanks love a show, and are snobs at 'eart w'en it comes to 'avin' dealin's with Royalty an' nobility; but they're selfish all the time. Otherwise it wouldn't 'ave took 'em three years to come into the wore, and at the larst minute they wouldn't 'ave refused to bear their share of responsibility with the Allies of enforcin' the peace o' the world. They made more money outer the wore than any other country engaged, and 'ad fewer losses. Now they kid themselves thet they won it, an' as good as refuse to lend a 'and in clearin' up the mess. They fell round your neck, I know, sir. But with their tongue in their cheek. W'y, one o' their papers published an account of a bloke livin' in the States wot claimed to be the rightful Prince o' Wales, suggestin' thet you wore the feathers under false pretences! A nice thing to allow w'en they was entertainin' you as a guest! Well, you've seen some wunnerful sights, sir, an' all thet; but wouldn't you jest like to 'ave a trip somew'eres on your own, in cog.—you know, sir, jest on your lonesome, or with a congenial pal—with no occasion for speechifyin' excep' w'en you met a pritty gal wot you took a fancy to? . . . Ah, I reckon you would, David, me lad—your royal 'ighness, I sh'd say. . . . Well, goo' day, sir. Glad to see you 'ome safe an' sound. . . . Thank you, sir, I'm very much erbliged indeed.

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(Half-a-crown is paid to the sender of each item published under this heading. Envelopes must be marked "Pie.")

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Dear Sirs,—Just a line to say that I received Suit quite safely and am more than satisfied. The material looks much better when made up than it did in the pattern, and it fits perfectly. I shall certainly recommend your firm to all my friends and you can rely on my orders in the future.
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Shoreditch: 185 & 187, Old Street.
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THE CITY RAINCOAT is made from a proofed hard wearing medium weight cloth. Can be worn winter and summer as a Raincoat or a covert coat. Tailored and cut in the Smart Raglan Style. It is proofed by a special process making it rainproof, yet is odourless AND CONTAINS NO RUBBER. It is in the favourite deep fawn shade, and is lined throughout with check twill lining.

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SHOULD A SOLDI

Result of the Courts-Martial Inquiry—Still to be

By THE

AT last we have the Reports of the Committee which I was instrumental in getting appointed to inquire into the law and procedure of Courts-Martial. It is an important document—or, more strictly speaking, it is an important collection of documents—bearing upon the rights and liberties of the men who, when all is said and done, are the only men who really matter—they who fight for the country. And I am now at liberty to say something which I have so far refrained from mentioning, and that is, that the composition of the Committee itself was all wrong. Far be it from me to seek to impugn either the humanity or the strict sense of justice of the military magnates who sat upon the Inquiry; but, considering that the whole scope of the investigation was to overhaul the administration of the disciplinary branch of the Army, it was surely somewhat of a farce to have the Judge-Advocate-General (Sir Felix Cassel), the Deputy Adjutant-General and Director of Personal Services (Major-General Child), the Deputy Judge-Advocate General (Brigadier-General Mellor), and the Earl of Cavan, an eminent Lieutenant-General, as members of the Jury. Let me hasten, however, to say that each of these gentlemen, according to his lights and his traditions, approached the problem in a sympathetic spirit, although I am bound to say that the Judge-Advocate-General seemed instinctively to regard every witness who went into the chair as a potential enemy of the Army Council in general and his own department in particular. However, despite these drawbacks, we have succeeded in eliciting some most valuable suggestions, although I am sorry to say that I could not carry the military members and one or two others with me in regard to certain inherent rights of the British soldier. We will, however, come to that later on.

"Shot at Dawn."

It was in February, 1918, that I published is this journal the now famous article, "Shot At Dawn"—which at once created a profound and painful sensation throughout the British Army and in every home that had representatives in the fighting forces. Even at this distance of time readers will readily recall the tragic story of the young officer—scion of a fighting stock—who, on account of a temporary failure of nerve in circumstances that might have unmanned the stoutest veteran, was tried by Court-Martial, and in spite of a unanimous recommendation to mercy, was made to suffer the extreme penalty. In publishing the details of this case, which I knew must harrow the feelings of all who read the poignant tale, it was not my purpose to emphasise the necessary rigours of Military Law, or to descant upon the inevitable horrors of its execution. This is what I wrote at the time:—

> If to-day, many months after that lad's life was forfeited in the cold grey of dawn, I feel it my duty to link up the facts, it is because I believe that out of it good may come and a reform be effected in this system of Courts-Martial which may save precious life, and stem the awful current of human misery which flows when parent and son are separated by the terrible gulf of a military execution.

My aim was to point to grave and sinister anomalies in the system of trial by Court-Martial which, from the day the young officer's fate was brought to my knowledge, I resolved by every means in my power to hold up to public scrutiny. My contention was that the central figure of this cruel tragedy was the victim of a bad and defective system. The arrangements for his "defence" were a sham and a mockery. Not until within a few hours of his ignominious death was the poor boy made aware of the terrible fate in store for him. These deplorable circumstances, as I was careful to point out, were not peculiar to this one case, but were inherent in the whole system of trial by Court-Martial, which denied to the members of our glorious Citizen Army the rights and safeguards enjoyed by the meanest criminal. Further inquiry served to confirm and deepen my misgivings on the subject, and especially was I impressed by the paramount necessity of securing for the soldier sentenced to death by Court-Martial the right of appeal against the extreme penalty—it having been only too clearly shown that "recommendations to mercy" were so much wasted sentiment. As I say, from the day the tragedy of "Shot at Dawn" was seared into my mind and conscience, I swore to give the authorities no rest—and the result was the appointment of the influential Committee which has now issued its Reports.

Roots of the Evil Untouched.

Knowing my record in this matter, my readers will hardly be surprised that I did not think it worth while to append my signature to the Majority Report of the Committee—which appeared to me, if I may say so with great respect, to leave the roots of the evil untouched. Not but what this influentially-signed document contains a number of useful suggestions which the Government should lose no time in translating into law. My main criticism of the Report as it stands is that its effect would be to perpetuate the gulf that at present separates the legal status of the soldier from that of the civilian, denying to the fighting man those necessary safeguards which the tradition of centuries has woven into the fabric of British justice. It was a matter of great regret to me when it was ruled by Sir Charles Darling, as Chairman, that the Committee's Terms of Reference precluded them from fully investigating the facts and merits of particular Court-Martial trials; for I am convinced that had I been permitted to examine in detail the *dossiers* of important cases that are stored in the offices of this journal, I might have won over several more members of the Committee to my own way of thinking, and persuaded the majority to adopt my views. Finally, I reached the determination, in conjunction with Major C. Lowther, M.P., and Mr. Stephen Walsh, M.P., who were equally alive to the necessity of drastic reform, that our recommendations should be embodied in a Minority Report, which, signed by the three of us, now forms part of the Government White Paper embodying the Committee's findings. The main points upon which the Minority Report insists are that, when a soldier is to be tried by Court-Martial, the fullest opportunity should be given him to prepare his defence under expert legal guidance; that legal assistance shall be available at every stage of his trial; that the Court shall in every case consist of officers with special legal training, thoroughly acquainted with the rules of evidence and the essentials of sound judicial procedure; and, finally, that where the death penalty is awarded, there shall be a right of appeal from the Court-Martial to the Court of Criminal Appeal.

Overwhelming and Unanswerable Case.

This last suggestion, to which I attach the very greatest importance, was definitely rejected in the Majority Report—to sign which, with its other timid reservations, would have been to abrogate the duty laid upon my conscience ever since the bitter tragedy of "Shot at Dawn." To my mind, the case for the Minority Report is overwhelming and unanswerable. I regard the British soldier, in peace or in war, as first and foremost a British citizen, whose life and liberty the community holds in trust. I am well aware, of course, that military law, framed to meet circumstances of exceptional urgency and to uphold a discipline necessarily severe, cannot be completely assimilated to the civil code—that the grim exigencies of war demand extraordinary remedies for offences against its rules of blood and iron. Nevertheless, I contend that there are certain bed-rock principles of justice that can and must be respected, if the conscience of this great nation is to be satisfied and the honour of the British Army preserved. As long as I can hold a pen I shall continue to denounce a system which, in its present antiquated form, reduces the soldier from the level of a free citizen to that of a mere slave. If a soldier has been guilty of conduct prejudicial to good order and discipline—if, through cowardice or carelessness of duty, he has acted in such a way as to endanger the lives of his comrades or to imperil the common cause—it is not right that he should escape punishment. Without discipline an Army becomes a mere rabble, dangerous to all but its country's enemies. But neither is it right that the offender should be placed on trial in circumstances which, if they applied to a common criminal—

ER BE A SLAVE?

hot without Appeal!—Drastic Reforms Demanded.

EDITOR.

to a thief, a ravisher, or a murderer—would evoke a scream of indignation from every corner of the land. As a result of my protest in Parliament, a condemned man is now allowed to know his fate from the moment of sentence, and is not kept in ignorance for days. But it is, I repeat, monstrous that, when sentenced, he should have no right of appeal, no opportunity of ensuring a calm and impartial review of the dread award. "The essence of military punishments," we are told in the Majority Report, "is that they should be speedy and exemplary." It was exemplary enough in the case of the poor lad in "Shot at Dawn." But speedy? Why, he was under close arrest from November 14th, 1917, until his trial, on Boxing Day, and he was executed on January 5th! On December 13th—that is, a month after his arrest, when he was actually doing the work of Company Censor—he wrote this to a friend: "They are trying to kick me out of it," showing he had no idea of the enormity of the crime alleged against him. And, not only is there no substance in the plea of the military authorities for speedy punishments—they kept this lad weeks before they sentenced and shot him. I say deliberately, knowing now all the facts, that if he had had the right of appeal he would have been alive to-day! The Majority Report of the Court-Martial Committee will not touch this scandal. Its well-intentioned proposals merely brush the fringe of a great subject. In commending the proposals of the Minority Report to the earnest attention of my readers, I confidently appeal for their support in the further steps necessary to secure Government recognition of the principle that a soldier is still a citizen—that khaki does not deprive him of that citizenship—that he possesses in the eyes of the sovereign British people certain definite and inalienable rights.

A Drastic Remedy Demanded.

The central feature of the Minority Report to which I have set my hand is the demand that if, after the preliminary safeguards upon which I insist, a soldier is sentenced to death, he shall have the right of appeal not to a Military tribunal, but to the Court of Criminal Appeal. I shall be told, no doubt, that this is a "drastic innovation." Of course it is. So was the law which abolished hanging for sheep-stealing and a hundred other small offences; so, too, was the abolition of flogging in the Army—once considered essential to the maintenance of "discipline." My contention is that the situation demands drastic remedies. It is one of the fearful dangers of war and of the military calling that it may tempt its ardent devotees to hold human life, and especially the life of the soldier, cheaply; that amid scenes of wholesale carnage a single life may hardly seem to count. That such a belief is definitely formulated in the minds of the British military authorities I do not for a moment suggest; but I demand that it shall be legally repudiated, and that the sacredness with which the nation invests the lives of its soldiers shall be formally embodied in laws for their protection against the poisoned shafts of injustice. Good God—is it a light thing to take a man out and shoot him like a dog for some temporary failure to live up to the high standards of British valour, or even for a serious offence as "crimes" go in the Army? I do not want to indulge unduly in sentiment, but, in Heaven's name, let us remember that the bullet which closes the career of a disgraced soldier—like the keen, affectionate boy whose fate was the theme of "Shot at Dawn"—may at the same time tear open a mother's heart in cruel anguish and humble a father's pride in the dust. The grim necessity of war?—ah, yes, but suppose there is a doubt about it; suppose that the poor lad never had a dog's chance to defend himself; that there was no effective shield of legal aid to parry the impending threat of death; that the Court entrusted with this awful power had no real qualifications for its terrible task!

Really, the case of the Majority Report against me is weak as water, and I cannot believe the Army Council will refuse the justice of granting an Appeal Court. This is the best my colleagues can urge in favour of the existing system:—

> We are of opinion that it is undesirable to set up any formal Court of Appeal from the decisions of Courts-Martial, since these Courts sit and adjudicate in circumstances wholly different from those in which the Civil Courts exercise their powers. So far as findings are concerned, the Court who actually see and hear the witnesses are far more likely to arrive at a correct conclusion upon conflicting evidence than any appellate Tribunal.

It is true that Courts-Martial are different from Civil Courts; its members—wholly untrained in law—are both judge and jury, and if these military judges are to be trusted, why are cases reviewed by the Judge-Advocate-General? He does not "see and hear the witnesses"—he sits remote at Whitehall. Those who did "see and hear the witnesses" in "Shot at Dawn" added a unanimous recommendation to mercy. Yet the execution went forward! And I say that, if I have any influence in this country and if I can move the great heart of Parliament, I will not have men sent to an ignominious death without the final right of trial before a panel of trained judges.

The Nation Behind Me.

This Report by no means finally disposes of the matter—my task is not yet complete. The next move is with the War Office, which should lose no time in adopting such items of the Court-Martial Committee's recommendations as can be embodied in the King's Regulations without recourse to Parliament; after which I shall do all in my power to secure favourable consideration for the principles of justice laid down in the Minority Report. I know well enough that in this matter I have the support of the nation—and especially of the men, in every town, village, and hamlet who have witnessed at close quarters the archaic system of military law and procedure that I am endeavouring to bring into harmony with modern conceptions of justice and fair play. The new Citizen Army of Great Britain cannot subsist upon a code of disciplinary law that has altered very little since the time of the Peninsular War—when, as the Iron Duke himself confessed, his victorious forces consisted to a great extent of "the scum of the country." I hope there is no impression amongst my readers that the subject is out-of-date, that my demands have no bearing upon present-day conditions. The Minority Report proposes that in time of peace—and in time of war, too, except among troops actually in the field—there should be a right of appeal from the sentence of a Court-Martial—other than a death-sentence, which, as explained, would go to the Court of Criminal Appeal—to a special Appellate Tribunal composed of three officers of long experience at Courts-Martial, and therefore, as is stipulated, of special legal training. Imagine what this would mean in removing the risk and the haunting sense of injustice in the Army in India, in Egypt, on the Continent, on foreign stations and among the forces at home.

Charter of Citizen Rights.

We may not always be at peace. My aim is that, if ever the British Army is again engaged in deadly combat with a foreign foe, there shall be no possibility of such a ghastly tragedy as underlay the graphic story "Shot at Dawn." I can afford to smile now, as I recall that the Government were half-inclined to prosecute me for that article—an event which might have done more to focus public attention upon the underlying scandal than anything else that could have happened. However, they thought better of it, and, instead, sat me upon a Committee to see what could be done to put things right. I am sorry I was not able to see eye to eye with all my colleagues, but I confess I was not studying to please them—or, in fact, to satisfy any lesser claim than that of justice to the British soldier, whom I invite to recognise in the Minority Report the Charter of his citizen rights. And, when all is said, there is no discipline like that which rests upon the willing and loyal co-operation of men who fear no injustice and are conscious of no law that impairs their self-respect. There for the present I must leave the matter, assured that I am interpreting the nation's determined will.

THE PEOPLE'S PULPIT.

The readers of "JOHN BULL" discuss matters of Public Interest.

In giving publicity on this page to the views of correspondents, preference will be accorded to brief letters bearing name and address for publication.

All envelopes and letters must be marked "P.P." in left-hand corner.

Letters for this page must relate to public, as distinguished from personal, topics.

For short acknowledgments of communications and replies to other letters—selected from our general mail—see "Letter Bag" pages 24 and 25.

Mediums and Murders.

In view of the growing number of unsolved murder mysteries, I suggest that Spiritualistic "mediums" use their powers to solve these, thereby proving their genuineness, and at the same time rendering great service to the community. People with supernatural gifts should use them for the common good.—JOSEPH DAVIES, Llanybyther.

Theatrical Hostels.

The lodgings difficulty for members of theatrical touring companies could be solved by the Actors' Association. A fairly large house could be rented in every big city and run by the Association, charging sufficient to make the scheme self-supporting, a supervisor being appointed to ensure a reasonable standard of comfort.—MAUD SLIM, Bearwood Road, Bearwood, Birmingham.

An *Ad Valorem* Duty on Tobacco.

When will the Government place the import duty on tobacco on an *ad valorem* basis? Under the present system, the importer of a penny Continental cigar has to pay the same duty (per lb. avoirdupois) as the importer of, say, a two shilling Havana. Surely the duty could be regulated according to the value, as shown on a Consular invoice?—WILLIAM E. WILSON, Rossett Road, Great Crosby, near Liverpool.

The "Crocks."

Could not something be done for the thousands of crippled ex-Service men wishing to attend sports' meetings, such as football matches, theatres, boxing, etc? The congestion at these places makes it too dangerous for them to attempt to visit their favourite sport, and the majority cannot afford to pay Grand Stand prices. A "Crocks'" entrance, at taxless prices, at all football matches would be much appreciated.—W. J. ROLLINS, Durham Road, West Ham, E.

The "Barred Kiddie."

We hear a great deal about the "barred kiddie," and parents on every hand are crying out against the landlords who stipulate for "no children." Let us get at the root of the trouble. The undisciplined child is simply the product of the over-indulgent parent—or guardian. Let us be fair to the little ones, train them to proper ways, and help them to live down the bad reputation they have acquired—through the folly of their elders. We shall hear less then about the inconsiderate landlord, and children will be welcomed everywhere.—E. H. MEYNELL, Granville Chambers, Richmond Hill, Bournemouth.

Inconsistent Clerics.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, in his speech against Premium Bonds, forgot to mention that there is not a parish in England where raffles or lotteries are not held in bazaars for the benefit of the Churches or Chapels. In Ireland lotteries are held openly for the benefit of Roman Catholic institutions, the tickets being sent to England to be sold by the faithful. Why does His Grace not institute a Mission for the Abolition of the Stock Exchange?—HARRY G. POWELL, Broad Street, Wokingham, Berks.

Christmas Travelling.

Thousands of business people whose work is far from their old home naturally want to join their relatives and friends at Christmas. Shop assistants have an extremely strenuous time prior to the holidays, doing practically double work, for which the majority are not recompensed in any way, and it would be a great boon to many if employers could arrange with the railway companies for the issue of vouchers entitling those whose homes lie outside a radius, say, of 50 miles to the pre-war rate of travelling.—A. E. SAUNDERS, Northport, Wareham, Dorset.

The Family Exchequer.

In working-class families it is the practice for a man to give his wife so much for housekeeping expenses, and keep the rest for spending money; in the old days this was but a few shillings for beer and "baccy." Now, however, although most workmen have had their wages raised anything from 100 to 200 per cent., the Chancellor of the Family Budget is lucky if she gets 50 per cent. to 70 per cent. more to manage on than in pre-war days; yet she has to pay at least 100 per cent. more for foodstuffs only, leaving aside the higher-priced necessaries such as clothing, boots, etc. This is a thing that no legislation can alter; it is up to every man to "play the game," and not affect ignorance of the price of things as an excuse for selfishness.—J. F. SOMERFIELD, Tyler Street, Sheffield.

Five Guineas is paid to the writer of the most interesting letter. That amount has been sent to Mr. O. Brimm.

"What's Sauce for——"

If a wife feels the need of "one particular man-friend" other than her husband, let him tell her that he, too, needs a particular woman-friend other than her—and see the righteous horror with which she would regard the proposal of "the brute"!—ALICE WISE, High Street, Leicester.

Camps for Sanatoria.

Ex-Service men are suffering in large numbers from tuberculosis, and the existing sanatoria are not nearly sufficient to cope with cases which are awaiting treatment. Tuberculosis in its *early stages* can be cured, so why not give the men a fighting chance of recovery by converting some of the large camps in the country into Tuberculosis Sanatoria, rather than keep sufferers waiting until their cases become hopeless?—R. F. COTTON, Lomond Grove, Camberwell Green, S.E.

The Tram Tussle.

When will the London County Council take steps to remedy the excessive overcrowding of the trams at the busiest times, by protecting the harried conductor, who is often unable to cope with the unscrupulous person who *will* dodge under the chain on a "full" car? They owe a little consideration to the passengers who have queued up for their seat or "strap hang." The instalment of a collapsible gate in place of the chain would not only remedy this, but enforce the regulation against "alighting while the car is in motion"—the source of many accidents.—FRANCIS F. CASS, Knatchbull Road, Camberwell, S.E.

The Guard of Honour.

The daily "Changing of the Guard" in London, the mighty spectacle in Gibraltar of the procession going to lock the fortress gates, are, amongst others, cherished and historic features in our Empire's traditions. Could not a nightly "Guard-Mounting" on similar lines be arranged in connection with the Nation's monument to its glorious dead, and a daily Guard of Honour be posted round the Cenotaph, thus marking our regard for our splendid heroes for all time?—GEORGE O. BRIMM, Common View, Letchworth.

Artificial Limb Repairs.

At present, when a man is needing repairs to his artificial limb, he is sent away from his home at a great expense to the State. But if a number of disabled men were taught the artificial limb trade, one or two could be established in each big town throughout the country in a small workshop, provided by the Pensions Ministry, to repair all limbs supplied by the Ministry. This would effect a great saving to the ratepayers, and, at the same time, provide employment for many disabled men.—C. H. HEPWORTH, Huntingdon Street, Cipsyville, Hull.

Football Excursions.

English Cup-ties will soon be here, and a million or more war heroes will be denied the pleasure of a cheap excursion to enable them to urge on their team to victory. Those men saved the country, and the Government renders thanks by curtailing their pleasures. If there were railway supermen at home at £50,000 a time, there were extra-supermen abroad stopping bullets at nothing a time. If race trains, then football trains; for these would bring in the more revenue.—ARTHUR E. SALT, Garfield Avenue, Levenshulme, Manchester.

Churches and Cinemas.

Clergy are constantly bemoaning the lack of worshippers at the Churches, and blaming the Cinemas as the chief cause. Instead of being jealous of the cinemas, why not copy some of their best features? If a screen were introduced into every Church (it could be done without any display of irreverence), and, instead of the usual sermon, moving pictures of a suitable nature shown, would it not attract the very class of people which shudders at the thought of listening to a modern religious discourse? There is unlimited scope for helpful and interesting moving pictures of a religious nature.—JAMES WILSON, The Cottage, Thickett Road, Sutton, Surrey.

Mark the Toys.

We read of big firms ordering thousands of pounds worth of German-made toys. Well, we women want every toy stamped in plain words where it was made, so that we can see at once if it is British or German. Wives, mothers, widows, we don't want cheap toys if they are made by the Huns. We won't let our children have them. A British toy for a British kid!—K. COLEMAN, Shepherd's Bush Road, Shepherd's Bush, W.

Marriages with Coloured Men.

It is time our women were prohibited by law from marrying men of colour—black or yellow—in cases where the latter propose to settle in this country. The introduction of the resultant offspring to British citizenship is surely to be deplored. If a woman will persist in accompanying such a husband to his own country, after the consequences have been pointed out to her, she must be left to her own hapless fate.—M. R. INGLIS, Castle Street, Edinburgh.

Forewarned—Fore-armed.

Remembering the four years' awful air-raids London and other parts of England experienced from the Huns, without proper shelters, the Government should provide: "That all public and private buildings, houses, and tenements now being, or to be erected, be provided with a bomb-proof underground cellar." We must be prepared for anything and everything except the "League of Nations" humbug. God help us (and damn those responsible) if we are not prepared for the "next onslaught"!—JOHN WARREN, High Road, Lee, S.E.

Provide Work for Us.

Now that the Government have stopped paying the Unemployment Dole, they should start immediately works of national importance—such as the making of canals, light railways, and new roads for the ever-growing motor traffic. They have ready to hand—in the residue of war material—all the tools and implements needed. This scheme would absorb the great majority of the out-of-works—both manual and clerical—relieve the present great congestion of traffic, and tide over the distress during the coming winter.—WM. AINSWORTH, Mitchell Street, Elton, Bury, Lancashire.

The Best Christmas Gift.

Christmas is drawing near, and we read of much money being spent in the shops. Wouldn't it be a great thing if the shoppers and shopkeepers combined and collected on behalf of our disabled soldiers who are quite unable to earn—the consumptives, for instance? Their pensions may provide for the ordinary week's fare, but there is nothing left for a little extra for Christmas. Many of these men may never see another Christmas. They have nobly given their health for us. Surely it is up to us to help them! The local Pensions Office in each district could put us in touch with the poor fellows.—MRS. PUTTNAM, St. Mary's Road, Hornsey.

The Family "Half-Holiday."

The compulsory half-holiday each week has been a boon for shop assistants, but the advantage of it is denied to the wife and children of the married shopman when it is fixed for a day other than Saturday, as the children are at school. Could not the local Education Authorities arrange that the schools could be closed on the same day and time as shops, and be opened instead on Saturday mornings? This would enable every father to spend his half-holiday with his wife and children. If this scheme needs an amendment to the Education Act, I hope someone will move at once.—FRED GILBERT, Burgoyne Road, Harringay.

"Piece" and Plenty.

The various Trade Unions have got the "wrong end of the stick" in inducing their members to keep asking for more money—and yet more—and so causing the prices of commodities to soar higher and higher. All this agitation has been for more money and less hours. Both needed re-adjusting—but not a word has been urged about "production." Employers should, where possible, pay on the "piece-work" plan; then we should see our warehouses rapidly filled, and prices would soon fall in the great competition for the world's markets. Thus a lasting "peace" would follow, and the men would be happier and far more contented by giving a "fair day's work for a fair day's wage."—W. FROOM, Portland Street, Taunton.

It takes a very little purse

to supply a family with the best of cakes, buns and puddings.

The economy begins in purchasing a tin of Bird's Egg Substitute; the enjoyment begins with the first of the good old English cakes or puddings you make from the recipe leaflet.

Besides a daily saving in expenses, there is a daily treat for the family.

Bird's Egg Substitute imparts the richness, flavor and appearance of new laid eggs to cakes, buns and puddings of all kinds. And makes them wonderfully light with no other raising ingredient.

Bird's Egg Substitute

In Packets and Tins with excellent and reliable recipes.

S.E.68

Yours

Nature's Gift of Permanent Beauty.

Let us be using . . . nature's forces . . . to heal beauty. Friction . . . skin . . . the skin dries . . . and . . . cream . . . and make . . . wrinkles . . . the "open season" . . . this . . . for . . . will . . .

EVER since the days of Cleopatra the recognised skin beautifier has been massage with perfumed vegetable oils and plant asia which the only true exponent remaining in the world to-day is Colleen Soap.

To acquire the soft dewy complexion for which the Irish Colleen is world famous, first of all equip yourself with a box (containing 4 tablets) of Colleen Soap, a pot of Colleen Toilet Cream, a pot of Colleen Vanishing Cream and of course a flask of Colleen Talcum Powder.

Make this Treatment a Nightly Habit.

TUESDAY. On retiring apply a liberal dose Toilet Cream to the face, neck, arms, temples, forehead and about the ears. Allow it to remain on while brushing . . . for the night.

WEDNESDAY. Wash up a warm water lather with Colleen Soap, and after thoroughly rinsing the face with warm water, go over the . . . velvet" lather with the tips of the fingers, until the skin feels fresh and clean. Rinse in cooler water. Then pinch with quite cold water for a few minutes. Dry the roughly with a soft towel.

THURSDAY. Again apply . . . Toilet Cream, . . . before washing with Colleen Soap. *This* protects the eyes during . . . is an application of Colleen . . . Cream . . . the . . . the . . . the

"TOMMY AND JACK."

Dealing also with the Discharged Sailor and Soldier and their Dependents.

OUR PLEDGE.—"No case of hardship or injustice, no instance of beggarly treatment or mean cheese-paring, shall go unchallenged and unremedied."—*Horatio Bottomley*, 19th August, 1916.

"TOMMY."

Is There One?—If there is an orderly officer at the Discharge Centre, Winchester, he might help matters by asking the staff if they have any complaints—particularly regarding rations.

An N.C.O. Grouse.—It is not often that our non-commissioned officers make a moan, but those of the 186th Co. of the Labour Corps, at Noyelles, have justification for doing so. They get insufficient food, and the "domestics" who run their mess are unsavoury Chinese coolies. Any chance of improvement?

Preventible?—Is it possible to prevent the very numerous cases of pneumonia—many of them fatal—that are so common now on the troopships coming from the East? Are the vessels overcrowded; are the men supplied with proper clothing for a winter voyage, and is the bully beef always above suspicion?

Not Lost, but Gone Before.—When the 129th Brigade R.F.A. sailed for India the other day, they left behind them a number of details whose kits were carried off to the East. The gunners are now attached to a battery at Ipswich, and have only the clothing they stand up in—not even a second shirt or pair of socks. Imagine their condition.

The Enemy First:—Recently a "demobb" train arrived at Calais from Boulogne with about 70 British officers on board. On visiting the mess at the rest camp next morning at regulation hour for breakfast, they were told to stand by, as repatriated German officers were to have their breakfast first. And this in a British officers' mess! But there; our officers and men over there are carried in cattle trucks, while the red-handed Hun travels *de luxe*.

"JACK."

A Baltic Bit.—In the House the other day the Admiralty representative gave the usual "official" reply to a member who asked a question concerning the men serving in the Baltic. Will he inquire into the state of things on board the *Vindictive* out there? According to our information, there might be many improvements on board.

Inconsiderate.—Recently an A.B. on H.M.S. *Superb* showed proper authority a telegram announcing that his father had died suddenly. The man was refused leave, although his ship was at Chatham and his home in London. He is an only son, and the whole burden of burial was thrown on to the shoulders of an aged mother.

Bravo, Whitehall!—Following our remarks concerning the illegality of condemning men as deserters without proving *intention*, the Admiralty have issued this Order: "Absence over leave even when it is of longer duration than seven days does not justify conviction for desertion unless there was an intention not to return, which intention must be judged by the actions of the offender. It is pointed out that under Section 19 of the Naval Discipline Act, desertion involves heavy penalties in addition to the punishment awarded, and it is unjust to render liable to such penalties men against whom there is no proof of desertion." Which proves and supports our point. Now let the War Office issue a similar Order.

Purchase and Discharge:—Boys under 18 may now be purchased out of the Service. The many others entitled to demobilisation will be dispersed as soon as possible.

"THE SILVER BADGERS."

Secretaries of Discharged Sailors' and Soldiers' organisations, in sending cases of injustice or other information, should mark their envelopes "Silver Badgers."

Nothing Doing:—Kean, of Providence, Bilton Lane, Harrogate, advertises telling soldiers who bought themselves out and re-joined, that if they work through him they will be given back a proportion of their purchase money. Kean's fee for the service is 10s. It is only necessary for any man who purchased himself out to apply to the officer in charge of his regimental records in order to recover the money due to him. There is no need to have recourse to a guide, philosopher and friend like this fellow Kean.

His Mistake:—Kean tells his clients that if they had pre-war service and purchased out before August, 1914, and afterwards served in the late war, they are entitled to a return of half of their purchase money. He is quite wrong. The Royal Warrant reads that if a soldier purchased his discharge before the completion of three months' service and re-engages, he is entitled to a refund of one-half of the purchase money; if he purchased his discharge after three months he is entitled to two-thirds of the purchase money. Soldiers should leave Mr. Kean severely alone. We supply them with all the information of which they stand in need free.

The King's Appeal:—Having regard to the appeal of His Majesty to employers to find jobs for ex-Service men, we are amazed at the number of refusals of the Coal Controller and other Government offices to furnish our returned heroes with a chance to earn an honest livelihood. It frequently happens that Badgers who apply for licences to start a business are turned down. Thus we strive to retain the loyalty of the men who fought for us, and bang the gate against Bolshevism.

"THE GREATEST OF THESE—"

[The object of our Fund is to relieve (a) the dependents of our Soldiers and Sailors; and (b) suffering amongst the people generally. No genuine appeal is ever refused, and although we see to it that adequate proof is presented in every case relieved, no harassing or degrading questions are put to applicants. Will you please help? We gladly defray all expenses of administration.

Among the numerous cases we assisted during the week were the following:—

Overwhelmed:—A woman who had just lost her husband had three children die within seven months. She was not in a position to face the heavy funeral expenses and, with her other youngsters, suffered severely through the want of bed-clothing and nourishment.

Similar Distress:—An orphan girl, whose sister lay dead, lost two brothers in the war, and her mother passed away recently. Here again we averted the prospect of a parish funeral.

Ten in Distress:—A discharged soldier, suffering from consumption, has nine youngsters. The poor fellow is unfit for work and applied to us for warm clothing and nourishment for the family.

Released and Set Up:—An old soldier was in the workhouse and begged for the wherewithal to purchase a pedlar's licence and stock, so that he might leave the institution and provide for himself.

Starving:—A discharged, unemployed man, with wife and child, was starving.

Rescued:—A workless man, with an ailing wife and three young children, owed rent. We saved him from eviction.

A Lonely Widow:—A widow, whose husband died after discharge from the army, has no pension and, with her child, was in extreme distress.

An Unhappy Family:—An ex-soldier is in extremely ill-paid employment—with a wife, who is seriously ill, and six children to support. A young daughter, to make matters worse, has fallen victim of the present plague of deceit and scoundrelism.

We have been the means of securing employment for several "demobbed" men, making grants to tide them over till pay-day.

DUMB AND PARALYSED.

Here is a case that should make a strong appeal to our readers. Forty-four years ago—on July 5, 1875, to be precise—William Holland, of Falkland, Fife, enlisted in the 13th Hussars, being discharged from the Army 21 years later with a pension—save the mark!—of 1s. per day. For upwards of 10 years the good fellow managed to struggle along with such chance employment as came his way, but in 1909 he was the victim of a cruel stroke of Fate—an attack of paralysis that reduced him to helpless invalidism, robbing him even of the power of speech. A widower with two daughters in domestic service, the old man had little to hope for in the way of family assistance; so in 1915, when his life's savings were exhausted, it was arranged that he should receive a Poor Law grant of 5s. a week to eke out his starvation pittance from the Army. At this moment the dumb and paralysed old man, and his younger daughter who has left her employment to come home and look after her father, are resisting the daily assaults of want and hunger on a total income of 12s. weekly, an application to the Parish Council for further assistance having been delayed from week to week through the apathy of the local officials. If it were not for the desperate urgency of the case we might not trouble our readers, but we have direct information that at this very moment the poor old veteran is suffering desperately from cold and hunger, slowly sinking from want of nourishment, his dumb agony intensified by a sense of bitter injustice. We shall not slacken in our efforts to awaken the local authorities to a sense of their duty; meanwhile, if any of our readers will enable us to add to the small grant we have made from our "Greatest of These" Fund, they will be comforting the heart of a poor old soldier, and sweetening the task of filial duty for a plucky and true-hearted girl whose sacrifice has been great indeed.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Collected by Joan Cautley Innes (Richmond), £14; R. M. (London, N.), 5s.; "Musicus," 10s.; "From Mother, in Loving Memory of Her Boy," 2s. 6d.; Mrs. M. D. (Tonbridge), 2s. 6d.; N. S. (Devonport), 10s.; R. E. G., 3s. 1d.; Collected on board H.T. *Cooeyanna*, Bombay (per R. A. H.), £8 2s. 1d.; J. C. B. (Plymouth), 6d.; H. McN. (Musselburgh), 10s.; "Money Box of Joan and Jack," 5s.; E. D. H. (Percy Main), 2s. 6d.; J. A. M. (Wandsworth Common), 4s.; P. J. (Dalmellington), 2s. 6d.; E. W. B., 9d.; J. R. T. (Milford Haven), 2s. 6d.; P. J. (Richmond), £1; Anon. (Nottingham, 10s.; "S. Ealing Reader," 2s.; "Widow" (Midlothian), 12s.; "Gib," 10s.; M. B. (Glasgow), £1; "Sweet and Twenty," 2s.; W. T. S. (S. Devon), 1s. 6d.; R. D. (Arbroath), 1s.; Anon. (Leytonstone), 2s.; "Mary," (Bristol), 2s. 6d.; R. F. (Maidstone), 1s.; W. M. (Bexley Heath), 1s.; C. C. (Hauley), 3s.; "To a Dead Soldier's Dependents," £1; "Harry, One of the Old Brigade," 12s.; C. W. (Slaithwaite), 5s.; D. G. H. (Brynmawr), 10s.; "A Regular Reader" (Bletchley), 5s.; L. W. (S. Kensington), 1s.; A. J. (Bangalore), 1s. 3d.; Anon., 10s.; H. S., 1s.; Chief Officer, s.s. *Lackawanna* (New York), 7 dollars; Ship's Company, H.M.S. *Warspite*, £5; R. F. (New Southgate), 10s.; A. S. (Raynes Park), 2s. 6d.; "Swearer," Fine Box (Dartford), 3s. 6d.; E. M. G. (Shepherd's Bush), 10s.; J. S. S. (Dunfermline), 2s.; "In Thankfulness," 2s. 6d.; T. P. T., 10s.; E. B. E., 3s. 6d.; "Anti-Yank," 10s.; H. L. F. (Brentford), 2s. 6d.; J. B. (Ipswich), 2s.; Mrs. L. M. (Edinburgh), 1s. 6d.; J. H. (Acton), £1; "S. Ealing Reader," 2s.; F. M. (Roby), 1s. 6d.; F. H. (Johannesburg), 1s. 3d.; J. W. (N. Cheam), 4s.; C. B. (Middlesbrough), 2s. 6d.; "Celia" (Bishops Stortford), 1s.; "Jessie" (Southport), 2s. 6d.; R. B. G., 1s. 6d.; "A Spiritualist" (Dundee), 5s.; Anon., 6d.; D. B., 6d.; J. H., 1s.; A. P., 6d.; Anon., 5s.; R. S. G., 3s.; H. B. (Woking), 3s. 6d. Mr. W. C. Wise, the winner of the First Prize in our 333rd "Bullets" Competition, has kindly sent us £10 10s.

"A TRAGEDY OF INGRATITUDE."—Additional sums received for the benefit of Mrs. Collins and her family are: S. R. W. S., £5 5s.; H. G. G., £1 1s.; C. F. C., 15s.; "A Sympathiser," N. S., T. C. H., and W., 10s. each; K. R. M., M. H. B., W. F. P., "A Reader," H. D., 5s. each; I. E. D., 4s. 6d.; H. L., 4s.; C. T. P., Mrs. M. E. B., L. D., R. L., G., "Sirex," 2s. 6d. each; "Demobbed," 2s.; "23 Hastings," 1s.

"A WOOLWICH MARTYR."—Up to the time of going to press, our appeal for Mrs. Ernest Balls and her family has elicited the following response from sympathetic readers, to whom we tender sincere thanks: J. A. G., £1 1s.; "Chocolate," 10s.

"A SCOUNDREL UNMASKED."—Additional sums received for the benefit of the Wallsend Girl-Mother are: "A Sympathiser," 5s.; "Edith," and "Sympathetic Mother," 2s. 6d. each.

On the Course, and off it, No Cigarette's as fine as that which has the circle and winged white horse for sign.

TURF BIG 20 . 1/4

Turf Cigarettes are irresistible. No finer flavour in the world. Their extra large size and perfect manufacture make them an ideal smoke.

TURF DERBY 20 . 1/2

TURF VIRGINIA

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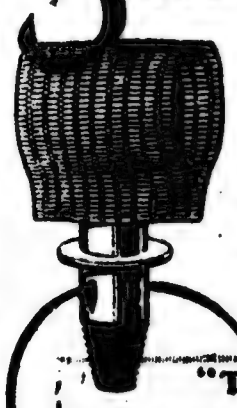
5 hours Light for 1d/4



Cut down your gas bill drastically by using "TWI" LIGHTS. "TWI" LIGHTS burn about 1 cubic foot of gas per hour when turned full on, and give 20-25 candle power light. This works out at *more than five hours bright light for one farthing* with gas at 3s. 6d. per 1,000 cubic feet.

Anybody can fix "TWI" LIGHTS—just screw them in in place of ordinary burner. Send 2s. 2d. now for burner and three mantles, and try them. You will want them for all over the house when you see how simple and satisfactory they are.

"TWI" LIGHTS

Anyone can fix them. They save pounds and cost only a few pence. Send 2s. 2d. to-day for trial burner and three mantles to Fox Fittings Co., 102, Church Rd., Erdington, Birmingham

Retailers apply for trade terms.

2/-
BURNER & MANTLES
(2d extra for postage)
EXTRA MANTLES
7 for 1/-

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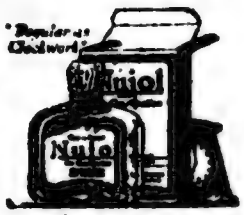
For Constipation



will teach you the healthiest habit in the world.

Get a bottle of Nujol from your chemist to-day and write for free booklet, **"Thirty Feet of Danger,"** to Nujol Dept., Anglo-American Oil Co., Ltd., 36, Queen Anne's Gate, London, S.W.1.

SICKNESS PREVENTION.

Foster Clark's

The Creamiest Custard

Cream Custard

HEALTH CAN BE YOURS.

It is nothing more than a waste of money and time to fight merely the signs of disease; in the long run you are no better off than when you started. What is far more important is that you should intelligently examine the various symptoms and trace the cause. When you remove the cause health will be yours.

For instance, anæmic people very often endure months of suffering while fighting its symptoms, such as indigestion, shortness of breath, pain round the heart, palpitation and exhaustion after any small effort.

The apparent stomach and heart troubles are generally nothing more than the result of an insufficient supply of pure blood. This anæmic state may have followed some previous illness or influenza, or perhaps has arisen from worry, overwork, or too little fresh air. Obviously, the simple and proper course is to renew and build up the blood, but to do this you must select a reliable remedy with a reputation, such as Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. These pills make new red blood which carries nourishment to all the organs of the body and enables them to do the work Nature expects of them. Normal health is then soon restored. Thousands of men and women have proved this for themselves after suffering much ill-health.

Don't wait another day before giving Dr. Williams' pink pills a thorough trial. Go to any dealer and obtain a supply, but ask for Dr. Williams'.

FREE. A free book of health will be sent to any reader who sends a postcard to Book Dept., 36, Fitzroy Square, London, W.1.—[ADVT.]

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Will be glad to send, post free, a copy of Suits, Costumes, Coat Frocks, Blouses, Rainproofs, Dress Materials, Household Drapery, etc., or Catalogues of Watches, Jewellery, Workers' and Boys' Clothing, Footwear, Electro-Plate, Cutlery, Gramophones and Records, Lace, Carpets, Prams, Cycles, Trees, Bicycles and Sundries, Sewing Machines, Furniture, Pottery, Sportsmen, etc.

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WATCH AND WAIT.

Watch it for thirty days—wait until you are sure. Take your time in deciding. Note results each day, but wait until you are absolutely certain. If it does not benefit you it costs you nothing. If you like fair dealing, if you are sick or need better health, read all this offer, and then write us.

Full Month's Supply for Fair Trial: Send No Money.

Readers of JOHN BULL should take advantage without delay of our liberal offer to send a month's supply of the natural Vitaliser, "Vitæ-Ore," for free trial. Thousands have already experienced its marvellous effects—the new vital energy which it gives, its power of renewing the health and vigour of all.

SENSATIONAL BENEFIT.

The result has been to cause a real public sensation. Vitæ-Ore has attracted attention by the way that it has given new life and virility to thousands of languid, anxious, and exhausted men. It has restored grace and healthy charm to thousands of tired, weary, care-worn women, and to girls whose development to womanly life has been delayed. The vital forces are powerfully and noticeably increased by Vitæ-Ore. What is the result? In the office, the factory, at social gatherings, at work, and in hours of leisure people are telling each other how much Vitæ-Ore has done for them that no ordinary medicine could do.

All who wish to share in this wonderful benefit should write at once for a month's supply.

NOT A PATENT MEDICINE.

Vitæ-Ore is not a patent medicine. The British Government recognises this by exempting it from stamp duty.

Vitæ-Ore is the residue of a natural healing spring, found in the desert by Prof. Noel, a famous geologist, and tested and approved by medical men of the highest standing.

HIGHEST MEDICAL APPROVAL.

The *Lancet*, the most important medical journal in the world, which would never give the authority of its world-famous columns to anything without the best scientific basis, publishes this statement

"The clinical results obtained were satisfactory."

Vitæ-Ore is perfectly harmless, and free from the slightest ill-effects. A fair trial for a month is offered. Fill up the coupon at once. Do not delay. Receive the benefit NOW.

ITS WIDE SCOPE.

Dissolved in water, Vitæ-Ore not only gives new health and tonic strength through its vitalising power, but has directly beneficial action upon many stubborn diseases, and has produced numberless cures in cases of

Nervous Weakness	**Rheumatism**
Debility	**and all "run-**
Dyspepsia	**down" conditions**
Neurasthenia	**resulting from**
Neuritis	**Stomach, Liver and**
Anæmia	**Kidney Weakness.**

It is a powerful nerve and spinal tonic. The headaches, pains in the back, and special weakness of women vanish when it is used. A man who, without having any special disease, suffers from general lack of energy, want of manly vigour and ambition, who is easily fatigued, and does not feel the aggressive strength of manhood, will derive new life from Vitæ-Ore—not by any sudden stimulation, but by a powerful tonic action which permanently benefits, Vitæ-Ore has made new men of thousands. You have a free and fair opportunity to try it for a whole month and see whether it will do the same for you. Fill up the coupon **NOW.**

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Fill in or Copy this Coupon for Free Trial of One Month's Supply.

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London, E.C.4

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Please send me a month's supply of "Vitæ-Ore," with full directions and free book of particulars.

I will use it according to the "Directions," and promise to report results in 30 days.

The ailments which trouble me are —

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If it does me good I will send you 4s. 6d. (four shillings and sixpence) in payment for the month's course of treatment. If not, I will write and say so, and in that case YOU ARE TO CHARGE ME NOTHING.

Name.....

Age.....

Address .....

.....

The NATIONAL NEWS takes national views every Sunday.

JOHN BULL AT PLAY.

RACING, FOOTBALL, BOXING AND OTHER SPORTING NOTES.

RACING.

Steeplechasing before the New Year is usually of a dull order. Matters always brighten up after Christmas, when, right along to Lincoln, frost and snow permitting, a lot of most interesting cross-country sport with good stakes, is enjoyed. The boom in racing on the flat has been carried forward to jumping—that is, judging by the last week's attendances. It is now up to the Race Course Committees to make their cards as attractive as possible. It will not be politic to angle for Selling races surplus. The attendances are likely to provide the revenue without the sale of winners. No horse should be entered to be sold for less than £100, and executives will get more runners in Selling Steeplechases if they put the conditional selling clause at £200. Owners quite naturally are not desirous of parting with their horses, many of whom will be equal to winning handicaps and weight-for-age races next Easter and Whitsuntide. Hence the small fields we are experiencing in Sellings.

Turf Reform

This is the one absorbing topic during the dull period. It is the concensus of opinion that the study administered by the Jockey Club to the Breeders' Association was richly deserved. What have breeders to complain of? Their yearlings have during the last two years sold for higher prices than ever before. It is the owner who supplies the racing entertainment, and who is deserving of the most consideration, though we do not agree with Mr. Frank Curzon that racing can be conducted on the same lines as a theatre. The fact that racing is a sport and not a business concern should never be lost sight of. There is already too much commercialism in racing, and we should have thought that Lord D'Abernon would have been one of the first to have realised this. Our contention is that the Jockey Club knows its own business best, and does not want to be dictated to by the Breeders' Association.

What we lost over Aynsley in the Manchester November Handicap and luck was not altogether on our side in the last big handicap of the flat race season—we hope to recover over hurdles shortly. One thing we are certain of—and that is, Aynsley will be fitter than the majority of his opponents. The Editor has hopes of winning other races this week, besides with Aynsley, who, of course, may be a bit short of jumping practice.

Of the many good Irish animals in England just now, Salt Spray is one of the best, and it may be some weeks before he is beaten. Mr. Straker's smart young horse is engaged at Sandown Park this week. We shall have to be on the look out for other "Irishmen." Rumour has it there is in Ireland an even better horse than Troytown.

LAWN TENNIS.

So Prince Albert has adopted lawn tennis as his pet 'Varsity game. It is not surprising, seeing that the Royal Family have for many years been ardent devotees of the racket. King George, who is patron of the Lawn Tennis Association, twice visited the last championship meeting. Princess Mary, as is well-known, frequently disports herself on the hard court specially laid down at Buckingham Palace.

It was rather remarkable that the aforesaid Cambridge University tournament was won by a Chinese pair, S. Wu and W. Lock.

The Lawn Tennis Association proposes to alter the rule in regard to service, to permit of one-armed players tossing up the ball from the racket. Truly a humane and sensible idea, which will be much appreciated by several of the gallant men who have been maimed in the war, and whose presence was, in consequence doubly welcome in the tournaments of last summer.

ATHLETICS.

Is it really correct that the British Olympic Council has been taking upon itself the responsibility for scheduling certain events for the Antwerp games without first consulting the governing bodies of the sports directly interested? At any rate, cross-country enthusiasts are making complaints on this score. Another Olympic item is that various swimming associations are at loggerheads over this foolish venture, which all round appears to be muddled.

WEEK'S RACING SELECTIONS.

Lingfield Park—Wednesday.
Crowhurst Hurdle—Irish Fair; if absent, Ingor.
Covert Side Chase—*Toadstone.
Winter Hurdle—Court Bleddyn.

Lingfield Park—Thursday.
Year's End Chase—MacMerry.
Hever Hurdle—*Soixante Quinze.
Ashdown Juvenile Hurdle—Irish Fair; if absent, Zephyros.

Sandown Park—Friday.
Ewell Handicap Chase—*Pollen.
Annual Handicap Hurdle—Chicago.
Priory Chase—Salt Spray.

Sandown Park—Saturday.
Milburn Maiden Hurdle—*Garryroe.
December Hurdle—MacMerry; if absent Ballyhandy.
Sandown Chase—Culprit.
Pond Chase—Straight On.

HOCKEY.

Accidents at hockey are too numerous to be pleasant. Recently two well-known players have suffered, an opponent's stick doing the damage, whilst in the third case an injured player has confessed to John Bull that he owes his misfortunes to "hefty" play in what is supposed to be first-class hockey. While this sort of thing goes on, many players complain that umpires are spoiling the game by being too strict!

Result of Football Competition No. 11.

Ten winning teams had to be selected from the sixteen matches played on November 22nd. Of these as many as five were drawn, thus leaving in all eleven winning teams. No competitor succeeded in selecting ten of these, but the following nine readers each named nine winning teams, and therefore share the prize of £500:—

J. Brice, 25, Brampton Street, Tiverton; A. Graham, 23, Hawthorn Street, Southwick, Sunderland; A. Hubbard, Berry Hill, Taplow, Bucks; A. W. McBride, 10, High Road, Chiswick, London, W.; W. R. Matthews, 52, South St., Newport, I.O.W.; A. E. Penny, 32, Clive Street, Barrow-in-Furness; J. Smith, 4, St. Mary's Buildings, St. Mary's Street, Southampton; Pte. F. Walker, 6253, A Coy. Depot, Royal Fusiliers, Hounslow; H. J. Whawell, 32, Thirsk Road, Mitcham.

In future competitions there is every probability that competitors will prove successful in giving the full ten winning teams. This new weekly competition is proving remarkably popular with our readers. Another prize of £250 *must* be won this week. See page iii. of cover.

FOOTBALL.

We have not the honour to know a certain Mr. Wilkinson, of the North-East District Education Committee, which held a meeting in Sunderland last week, and we sincerely hope that the introduction will be deferred until the end of all time. We are informed that one of the Education Committee's school teachers is Tom Greaves, of the Bury Football team, and on application from the Bury Club for special leave to permit Greaves to play against Clapton Orient last Saturday, the righteous Mr. Wilkinson rose up in opposition, with the remark that he did not think any teacher ought to be a professional footballer, but he would have agreed to the concession if Greaves *had* been an amateur. Luckily, he stood alone.

The Provident "Pro."

For the edification of Mr. Wilkinson, who, as a schoolmaster himself, ought to take a more sympathetic and broader view, let us say that our policy has always been that the best class of professional footballer is the man with the good sense to follow some other occupation, to carry him on when his playing days are over. Evidently Sanctimonious Wilkinson regards the cause of humanity as better served by the professional player being "it and nothing more," with no greater ambition than loafing away his days in idleness, incompetence and penury when he has finished with the game. We have met those poor fellows and our heart has bled for them.

Can anybody tell us why the Rugby Union overlooked Herbert McIlwaine, the brilliant Yorkshire forward, when they chose the England XV. for the trial match against the North? We regarded him as a "dead cert," and if he does not get his "cap" this season we or the Selection Committee will have to be regarded as very bad judges.

BOXING.

It did not take Goddard long to beat McLaglen at the N.S.C., but we liked the loser immensely. A splendidly-built fellow, and the more orthodox boxer, he did some fine things before he took the "knock-out." A little more power behind the blows that landed might easily have had Goddard "groggy."

Jimmy Wilde is being "lionised" in America. It is informative to read in the Yankee Press that "Wilde's forehead is pretty nearly the proportion which the books assign to what they call the well-balanced intellect," and that, in regard to his eyes, they "are without heavy supraciliary arches above them," etc. What they think of the set of his big toe-nails we hope to hear by the next mail. Meanwhile, we are more interested to learn that the great little fighter will meet either Pal Moore or Joe Lynch in New York in the New Year. In the interim "Our Jimmy" is seeking respite from the Press fiends with some rounds on the golf links. He is "some golfer."

The Great Match.

Never in the history of the Ring has a fight aroused such universal interest as that between Carpentier and Beckett. If you want to be thrilled with a fascinating pen-picture of the great "L'Entente Cordiale" contest, you must read A. G. ("Smiler") Hales' exclusive to next Sunday's *National News*—in other words, "The Sportsman's Sunday Paper."

The Tom Noble and Tibby Watson fight was a sheer delight, with Noble a gallant winner and the Australian an equally gallant loser. The more we see of Watson the more we admire his grit, but before he can claim to be Noble's equal he must learn to cover up more effectively. What he can take without flinching is really remarkable, but he took just the one too many in that eighteenth round.

The NATIONAL NEWS recently gave six winners at one meeting.

December 5th. XMAS NUMBER—ONE PENNY.

The Secret of Horatio Bottomley, M.P.

The NEW COMMONWEALTH

133, Salisbury Square Fleet Street, E.C.4.

The Organ of the Non-Manual and Black-Coated Worker.

Articles from the following brilliant men and women will appear from week to week upon the Non-Manual Worker's Problem:—

Miss Lena Ashwell,
Mr. Harold Begbie,
Mr. G. D. H. Cole,
Miss Marie Corelli,
Mr. Charles Garvice,
Mr. W. L. George,
Mr. Austin Harrison,
Mr. Maurice Hewlett,
Mr. Edgar Jepson,
Mr. Jerome K. Jerome,
Mr. T. P. O'Connor, M.P.,
Mr. Morley Roberts,
Mr. Pett Ridge,
Rt. Hon. J. H. Thomas, M.P.,
Colonel John Ward, M.P.

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A Present for all at Christmas Time, it helps the Home by enabling the recipient to make from his or her OWN HANDWRITING, TYPEWRITING, or DRAWINGS, large numbers of DANCE or PARTY INVITATIONS, PROGRAMMES, PICTURES, XMAS CARDS, CAROLS, PARLOUR GAMES and SMOKING-CARDS, MENUS, MUSIC, SONGS, LETTER-HEADINGS, VISITING-CARDS, MAPS, PICTURE-POSTCARDS, MOTTOES, PLANS, etc. in one or a variety of pleasing colours in one operation.

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"Such a treat!"

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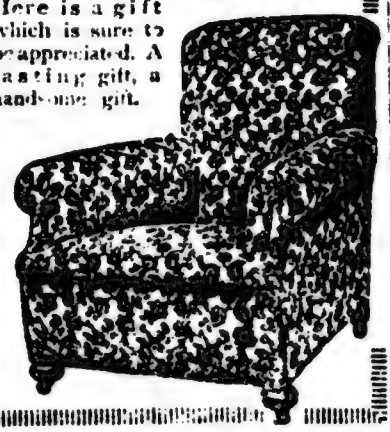

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For Sundays: Morning, the NATIONAL NEWS: evening, the SUNDAY EVENING TELEGRAM.

JOHN BULL IN THE CITY.

FINANCIAL NOTES—AND ADVICE TO INVESTORS.

BY OUR CITY EDITOR.

All correspondence relating to financial matters should be addressed to the City Editor.

Each enquiry must bear name and address and be accompanied by a Postal Order for One Shilling.

War Stock Weakness.

All sorts of stories are going around to explain the weakness in War Loans. Some of them can be bought to yield 6¼ per cent., but how can anyone expect Government Loans to maintain their price when the Bank Rate is 6 per cent., and when money is very scarce, and each day people ask, "Will the Rate go to 7 per cent.?"

Grand Trunk Ordinary.

Surely Grand Trunk Ordinary are too high at 8½ per cent. If the arbitrators give the five million dollars, they cannot give more, and they may give less. Then Ordinary could not get more than ½ per cent., which would give a yield of 6 per cent. Nobody in his senses would buy a Canadian Government Security to yield over ½ per cent. less than he could procure on a British Government security.

Swan Hunter and Chepstow.

It seems to me that Swan Hunter shares might be worth picking up, as this well-known North of England firm has taken over the Chepstow shipbuilding scheme which was originally started by the Government in the days when money was no object and when it was fondly hoped that Chepstow would build more ships than the Germans could sink. It never built any; but Swan Hunter know all there is to be known about shipbuilding, and have got the place at a knock-out price.

Egyptian Lands.

It looks very much as though someone behind the scenes were supporting Egyptian Land shares. There is a boom in land in Egypt, and it is fetching as much as £300 an acre. This is an absurd price. Cotton is of course high, but it must be remembered that it will not continue high, and the talk one hears in the Market of our crops per annum is most misleading. One might get three crops a year of Berseem clover, but you can get only one crop of cotton, and a November fog or an attack of boll worm will ruin that.

Coal and the Electric Light Companies.

The drop in the price of coal ought to be a splendid thing for the London Electric Lighting Companies, and put at least ½ per cent. on to their dividends. Those who buy to-day will certainly not regret it.

British and Chinese Corporation.

British and Chinese Corporation shares might be picked up, in spite of the fact that an adverse decision in regard to the Shanghai-Nanking Railways has been given against the Corporation. It has a contract to build the Nanking-Hunan Railway, and the Sinyang-Pukow. It is an off-shoot of the Hong Kong Shanghai Bank, and runs in double harness with Jardine, Mathieson and Co. Therefore, the Chinese, from a financial point of view, at any rate, kow-tow to the British and Chinese Corporation, which may be relied upon to get all the business going.

A Russian Amalgamation.

Kyshtim, Tanalyk, Irtysh, and the Russo-Canadian are all to amalgamate. Of the four, Kyshtim is the only one that has paid any dividends. Presumably the amalgamation is formed to collar the £830,000 cash held by the Russo-Canadian, which has been mixed up in some mysterious manner with the Urquhart Companies since 1917, when it found the money for the Kyshtim mining works. The capital of the new concern is to be £12,000,000. I mention the fact in order to warn my readers to keep out of the shares.

More Amalgamations.

Whenever there seems any doubt in the minds of the promoters as to the success of their enterprises, or whenever some game is to be played in the Market, amalgamation is a safe card to play. It smothers up the tracks, and the Stock Exchange likes a new share to play with. They now say that British Glass, which are quoted over four pounds—Heaven knows why—are to be amalgamated. Wise people will get out.

Barclay Perkins.

Some weeks ago I advised that a Brewery Trust would be a good thing to form for those who wanted high interest on their money and did not mind running a little risk. Breweries are doing well. "Pussyfoot" is a wash-out. Barclay Perkins are not only paying two and a half years' arrears of Preference dividend, but the Ordinary shareholders get 200 per cent. Of course these shares are all held privately.

De Treys.

The decision to increase the capital of De Trey to one million is not exactly what the Stock Exchange was looking for. For some months past a tip has been going round to buy these shares. It was said that the reserve was to be capitalised and presented to the shareholders. Now the shareholders find their capital increased, and their only hope is the issue of new shares at a price which will give them a reasonable bonus. The Chairman said he would consider the question of a bonus, but he will clearly prefer to issue new shares. De Trey is in a strong position, but the shares are much too high.

Six Million Motor Combine.

The prospectus of Harper Bean, Ltd., has now made its appearance. The capital of £6,000,000 is equally divided into Preference and Ordinary shares, and no part of the issue has been underwritten. The scheme is an ambitious one, comprising the amalgamation of eleven well-known firms in the engineering and motor trade, and should prove an important factor in combating foreign competition. The issue is to be utilised in the extension and development of the various enterprises comprised in the Combine, and the undertaking should have a successful future.

Big Whisky Amalgamation.

Elsewhere particulars will be found of the issue made by the amalgamated firms of Dewar's and Buchanan's, which has aroused considerable interest of late. The profits are very substantial, and the potentialities of the undertaking are enormous.

OUR FINANCIAL LETTER BAG.

EDITORIAL REPLIES.

(All enquiries must be accompanied by a postal order for 1s., and bear the full name and address of correspondent as evidence of good faith.)

E. W. H. (Westgate).—*Graham Marsh & Co.*: Have no dealings with this firm.—O. T. (Putney).—*Hampton Properties, Ltd.* has nothing to do with the Hampton Plain Estate. The latter was reconstructed in 1909 as Hampton Uruguay; last known address, 3, London Wall Buildings, but I think it has entirely disappeared.—H. S. P. (Guildford): *Rapid Rims*: I don't regard the company's prospects very hopefully; but having subscribed, you cannot now back out as you can be compelled to pay the remaining calls. Better pay up and hope for the best.—E. J. L. (Catford).—*Mararean Java* is a rather poor concern, but it may have prospects. There is practically nothing known about the Cuban Asphalt Co., except-ing that last year it had an issued capital of 90,097 shares, only 7 of which were paid for in cash. I have no records whatever about the other two companies mentioned.—S. H. (Towyn).—Your selection is excellent, but I should not exchange into Dunlops at the present moment. *British Oil Cake, Joshua Hoyle* and *Howard Bullough* are good enough to keep.—J. G. T. (Guildford).—*Call Options*: If you are tempted to deal with some circularising bucket shop, leave it alone. On the Stock Exchange (where the business is not encouraged at present), you lose your money if the call is not exercised whether the price of the share rises or falls. In any case you lose in the latter event.—R. V. (Cadoxton).—*Alliance Film*: It is well backed, and the shares are a fair speculative investment. They can still be bought round par, or even a little under.—Fitzroy (Taunton).—*Canadian Western Lumber* has a chance of reviving, and as the price is so low you should hold. You must also keep *Benskins*, as all breweries have been making huge profits recently.—J. McE. (Shercock).—*Ferrous's Bank* is perfectly safe, but I do not advise dealings with the other firm mentioned.—W. S. (Radlett).—Your experience has been exceptionally fortunate. Leave it at that, and don't run your luck too far.—D. H. H. (Wendover): *Central Arg.* and *East Indian Railway* are both very sound investments. They are not shares, but £100 stock. You must give me the complete title of *Guar. Land Stock*.—A. J. B. (Basingstoke).—*Funding Loan*: Keep your stock; it is an excellent investment, giving a better yield than Consols.—J. T. (Cardiff).—*Amalgamated Industrials*: It is quite a good company, and you must not worry about trifling fluctuations in the price. If you do, you had better keep your money in a stocking—the best security in the world drops a bit from time to time.—Nemesiatic (Seaton).—Shipping shares are getting near the top, but *Cunards* have a good chance of going higher. *Cultivator, Ltd.*, is a fair proposition, though I think it is overcapitalised.—F. W. (Rhondda).—*Transvaal Exploration* seems to have gone out of existence, and I am afraid the shares are worthless. The last known address was 48, Gresham Street.—GRATEFUL (Walsall).—*War Loans*: It is impossible to sell except through the P.O. The stock is at a small discount but the difference is not worth worrying about on your holding.—E. G. W. (City Road). Your shares in the *Eddystone & C. Lime Co.*, are not worth the paper they are written on.—A. A. B (Canonbury).—*War Loans*: Don't worry; you will get your interest without fail, and need not trouble about daily fluctuations in the price of your stock.—SPECKS (Newry).—Your list is a very good one, but I should be inclined to sell 6 and 7 if you have a good profit.—G. K. D. (Sandsend).—*Inter-national Paint*: The company has been doing well; and is likely to do better, because very little redecoration was done during the war and every owner now wants to do a bit to get rid of his excess profits.—H. L. G. (Windsor).—*Mysore Gold* is getting near the end of its tether, but there is a chance at the present price. *Tandjong* and *Nordanals* have fair prospects. *Dunlops* are good after the recent decline, but the market does not like the new capital arrangements. I regard your other shares as fourth-rate.—CONSTANT READER (Killucan).—*Marconis* have excellent prospects, and you should hold. *Premier Pipes* are extremely doubtful, whilst I regard *Mining Corporation of Canada* as very speculative. Better go in for some good Home industrial preference shares, of which there is a large selection at present.—B. of F. (Birmingham).—There is not much chance of a big drop in the French exchange, but I would turn the notes into sterling as soon as possible.

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200 GUINEAS
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50 Prizes of 1 gn. each.
500 DIPLOMAS of Special Merit.
Designed by Garth Jones.

Win one of these big Prizes with your Christmas Window!

You will probably be re-dressing your window for Christmas. Then, why not enter for the "John Bull" Window-Dressing Competition and win a handsome prize?

It costs you nothing to enter. You have as good a chance of winning as anybody, for

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Prizes will be awarded for the most effective displays regardless of the size of the window.

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1. Select any article advertised in "John Bull" between now and December 31st, 1919, and display it in your window for one week.
2. Send a photograph of the display (with your name and address written on the back) to "John Bull" Window Dressing Competition, 90, Long Acre, London, W.C.2.

The first thing to do is to fill in and post the coupon below, and you will receive full particulars of the Competition, together with a helpful article on the Art of Window Dressing. Time is getting short—

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Please send me full particulars of the "John Bull" Window-Dressing Competition. I am a bona-fide trader and attach my bill-head, card or business note-paper.

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To treat the first symptoms of a cold with Peps, is to give your Chest and Lungs real protection against the cold and damp wintry weather. *Neglected colds*, on the other hand, result in serious attacks of bronchitis and asthma, especially among the aged and weak-chested.

When you take a Peps tablet out of its silver wrapping and let it dissolve in your mouth, the strengthening and healing fumes given off are breathed through the throat and bronchials deep into the chest and lungs. The sore, inflamed membranes are soothed and healed, and irritation and that "stopped-up" sensation quickly dispelled.

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Of all chemists, in sealed boxes at 1/3 or 3/-. Every tablet is separately wrapped in silver-foil and stamped with the name of ***PEPS.*** *Refuse Worthless Imitations.*

40/- Carr. paid!

2 Blankets
1 Quilt
2 Pillow Cases
1 Bolster Case
2 Long Curtains
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GREATEST GENUINE BARGAIN EVER OFFERED TO PUBLIC.

Pair of Heavy made full double Bed size beautifully whipped white Fleecy Blankets.
One Heavy extra large full double Bed size.
Real "Alhambra" Quilt.
Two Hemmed and finished white Bleached Pillow Cases.
One Hemmed and finished white Bleached Bolster Case.
Pair of Floral Pattern Real "Nottingham" Long Lace Curtains (White or Ecru).
One large size Hemmed and finished lovely designed white Damask Tablecloth.

This splendid Bargain Bale sent Carriage Paid to any address (British Isles) for only **40/-**

Money returned at once if goods not as stated.

Don't delay, send at once and secure this Genuine offer.

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BLOUSE LINES. Remnants of snow white Irish Linen fine quality, for LADIES' BLOUSES. One blouse length, 5s. 6d., or three blouse lengths, 16s. 6d., postage 6d. Send for Bargain List. HUTTON'S, 185, Larne, Ireland.

GOOD SPARE-TIME AGENCY.—Applications invited from respectable working men in regular employment to supply Boots, Suits, Drapery, Watches and Jewellery for cash or credit. Liberal supply of samples. Commission, highest paid. Apply Freeman, Contractors H.M. Govt., Lavender Hill, London.

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HARRIS Tweeds, direct from Scotland, genuine hand made, hard-wearing, all wool tweed, direct from weaver to wearer, 11s. 6d. a yard; selected patterns post free.—A. Driver, 31, Aimess, Ross-shire, N.B.

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ENGINEERING. Electrical, Mechanical, Motor, Draught manship, Aero Engines, Mathematics. We teach by post any of the subjects. Complete Reference Library supplied free with each course. Excellent opportunity for apprentices. Name your subject and write for our Free Book explaining our System of Teaching.—The Technological Institute of Great Britain, Ltd. (Dept. 75), 51, Strand, London.

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Mr. Geo. R. Sims' discovery 1/3, 2/9, 4/6

"John Bull's" Letter Bag.

[The EDITOR replies to, and chats with, some of his numerous correspondents.]

CORRESPONDENTS ARE REQUESTED NOT TO SEND ORIGINAL CERTIFICATES, TESTIMONIALS, INSURANCE POLICIES, ETC., *as they are liable to be mislaid. Copies only should be forwarded in the first instance.*

LETTERS *must be addressed to the Editor or Publishers, 93, Long Acre, W.C.2, according to whether they relate to Editorial or Publishing matters.* FINANCIAL, INSURANCE, *or* LEGAL *enquiries should be addressed to the Financial, Insurance, or Legal Editor, and must each be accompanied by a postal order for one shilling. No fee is charged in respect of other enquiries. Full names and addresses should be given.*

"HAPPY FAMILY" (Wolverhampton).—"We get more fun out of your answers to correspondents than any other part of your paper." In most of the other parts of the paper the heads are supposed to reel off wisdom.

"MAUBACK" (London). As a matter of fact, everybody is a potential striker. For instance, a trader who won't deliver goods except at his own price, or a professional man who won't work except at his own fees, or a clerk who resigns on refusal of an increase of salary.

T. H. N. (Weymouth). "Few people of weight take any interest or any part in an endeavour to prevent cruelty to dumb animals." We are inclined to believe you.

"OLD SOLDIER" (Clapham).—Whoever in the House of Commons proposed medals for Conchies would be laughed off the floor.

"OLD CONTEMPT" (Aldershot) notices that "the nation who won the war" didn't take much in the way of prizes at the British Army Sports on the Rhine. He suggests this is due to chewing gum.

"DE-MOBBED" (Glasgow).—We were the first to condemn the Dis-Appointments Department, root and branch, and have spoken our strongest regarding its utter inefficiency and stupidity. It's about the worst Department of all, and that's saying something!

W. J. T. (Chelsea).—"I hesitate to send it to you, as I know you are a busy man." Never hesitate about a thing like that. Nobody else does. And you don't want to look conspicuous and aloof.

R. H. E. (Newcastle).—"Your name is upside down; it ought to be Topley . . . I fancy I can hear you say, Another lunatic at large!" Not after your sweet compliment.

L. P. (Poplar, E.).—The answer is that, having made £10,000,000 out of their Air Raid Insurance scheme, the Government intend to stick to the money, the morals of Whitehall being terrible shaky at times.

"SCOT" (Edinburgh).—So you are another one who believes that "the Americans and the Scots won the war." Perhaps by next post you will say which regiment deserves the main credit of the achievement.

J. S. H. (Camberwell, S.E.).—Glad you think the Prince of Wales has done "more than his best" to improve the lot of his tenants. Hurrah for H.R.H.!

"SONNY" (Rotherham). — "You are undoubtedly the father of us all." Figuratively speaking, of course.

"JACK" (Portland).—So you think it is "going too far" to say there are no German gentlemen, although before this our passion for truth has carried us to even greater lengths.

"ONE OF THE PEOPLE" (Liverpool).—"You were a lawyer yourself." Never. We were always innocent of that offence.

A. E. Y. (Middlesex).—Your pat on the back *re* Premium Bonds has given us a comfy sensation that matches our chest protector.

J. O. (Wandsworth).—"At the big flats in St. James's, they could not afford to keep on an Army man as porter at £3 a week, and took on a lad at 25s." Not a case of "couldn't" afford, but wouldn't.

H. G. P. (Wandsworth).—"We want no more bloodshed and strife. The nations together must pull. Our hope for a peaceful life—Be true to your wife and JOHN BULL." You do know what's what, *you* do.

WIGAN POLICE PENSIONERS (Per E. H.). — Resolution received and noted.

"REGULAR READER" (Hounslow).—Would we slave at unloading timber for £2 a week? No; and it isn't good enough for a married ex-soldier or any other man.

T. A. F. (Winnipeg).—"On the question of emigration to the so-called Colonies you are dead wrong, not to say crazy." Well, it's kind of you not to say it, anyway.

"IN THE WORKS" (Bexley).—We would not go as far as to say your verses are not "of any use." They might serve to soothe the baby.

"VICTIM" (Muresfield Park).—Fifty per cent. profit on refreshments is a lot too much. Say we said so, and ask for the change.

C. L. (Falkirk).—No need to read your statement in the House of Commons if it is published in JOHN BULL. We vie with Hansard in popularity at St. Stephen's.

"QUERY."—The child of four was allowed to vote at Croydon because his name was on the register. Everybody on the register may vote, whether in first or second childhood; but the vote may be disallowed on a "scrutiny"

"IVY" (Caerphilly).—"Is there such a thing as luck?" There is; some of it very bad, like that of the man who fell off a 'bus into a mud-cart.

E. (London Bridge).—"I am a childless farther so write in return my age is 15." We would sooner hear that you were a fatherless child, at your age.

"ROGER" (Barry Dock).—The gentleman you name is no relation of ours, all our family being of a most handsome cast of feature.

B. B. (Lewisham, S.E.).—It is not our fault "the way the 'Wrafs' are treated." If we had one we would make a pet of her.

"J. B. PUZZLED" (London, N.).—"If a chicken's offspring are hatched in a pigsty, can they be classed as pork?" The answer is a lemon.

J. M. (Guernsey).—Can't say what rights the Bailiff has under the old French law in the Channel Islands. In England the Judge usually asks ladies to leave the court in such cases. "I am glad to see," said a judge once, noticing many women remained in court, "that there are no ladies present."

J. S. (Hooton).—"In what circumstances is a woman justified in asking a man to marry her?" In any circumstances in which she thinks she has a chance of getting off. Also if she has any money.

J. F. (Canterbury).—As you know, we have frequently espoused the cause of policemen pensioned at the old rate. Like the cases of all other "old pensioners," yours is always kept in mind by us.

"EX-SERVICE MEN" (Lambeth).—If you are paid only £2 a week as Food Control Clerks at the Town Hall, Lambeth, it is not in accord with the Food Ministry's scale. Put your facts before headquarters at once.

W. C. (Newport).—"Are not Army characters good enough to obtain civil employment?" Depends entirely whether they are clean or spotted.

"READER" (Eastbourne).—We await your sonnet "inspired by watching greedy starlings pecking a piece of cold potato." It might be a good plan to send us one line at a time.

E. P. (Birmingham).—The notice required for marriage at a Registry Office is 21 days. The fees are small, although in the long run it often comes devilishly expensive.

F. L. E. (Clapham).—"Living in a house" (lucky beggar) "the back of which faces the railway." Now, how does it face it with its back?

J. L. V. (Leicester).—The person advertising as the Reliance Co., Eckington, Sheffield, and offering "How to earn £5 a week" for 6d., is a "mail-order" flat-catcher of the common type. Don't waste a penny on him or his kind.

T. W. (Bethnal Green, N.E.).—"What a snug little world it is for some to live in!" True for you, old son, but you must keep your socks pulled up and take the rough with the smooth.

M. C. (Leyton).—Our researches indicate that the "prickings of conscience" are not so located as to prevent people sitting comfortably in church.

E. E. W. (Temple, E.C.).—It was certainly a preposterous suggestion that the two minutes' pause on Armistice Day should be devoted to a "Prayer for Prohibition." These pumpuritan fanatics are getting beyond themselves.

"WAAC" (Chatham).—"Though I am aware that you are not an admirer of our Corps——" Hush, dear! Who has been traducing us?

H. C. (Glasgow).—When we learn that the Glasgow Town Council lately decided to take no further action in connection with the proposed entertainment of ex-Service men, it makes us wonder whether Scotland stands where she did.

M. R. (Sheffield).—Sir, "heat not a furnace for a foe so hot that it do singe yourself."

"READER" (Shepherd's Bush).—"I am asking your opinion of the gas prices." Where have you been hiding?

A. B. (W.5.).—"Any good?" N.g. for print, but our love to the widow and her six soldier-sons.

P. T. (Clapham).—Our Christmas Gift Coupon appeared in the issue dated November 22nd, and will be accepted up till December 31st at its face value (one shilling) in part payment of a JOHN BULL Pen.

"SANG AZUR."—Your "word or two of reproof" to hand. We greatly admire the contour of your cheek.

J. H. S. (Aden).—Glad to hear you are booked for Blighty. Won't the girls be pleased!

J. B. (Hackney).—"May I call your attention to a mock auction room at Kingsland . . . exploiting the British credulous public?" The B.P. should not be credulous, and then the mock auctioneers would fold their tents like the Arabs and silently fade—into Carey Street.

MR. S. (Farnborough).—"Do you think we are all fools?" Certainly not. But some are wiser than some are.

MR. M. F. HORNER (6, Alexandra House, St. Mary's Terrace, Paddington) will send any relative of Lieut. F. A. K. Park, Pte. W. A. Pimlot, and Pte. G. H. Pointer, all of M.G.C., a photo of their graves at Sequehart, near Bohain, France.

"IRISHMAN" (Alexandria). — We note that you think we ought to "hang our head." Should be glad of any hints as to the disposal of the rest of our anatomy.

H. A. S. (Chiswick).—We note that, owing to lack of house-room, you "cannot live with the wife." Perhaps as a last resource you might try with a smaller lady—say, your sister.

A. C. (Manchester).—Sorry, but your handwriting has perspired so freely that we fail to follow you. Try again in a cooler moment.

M. J. (Morton).—We quite approve of the owner of a cockerel whose crowing made night hideous being fined for keeping a noisy animal. Any respectable cockerel that has trod his daily round should be content to sleep o' nights.

D. D. (Christiania).—"When next I feel that I want to unbosom myself, I will write Mr. Bottomley." In London just now it is quite the fashion for ladies, at least, to unback as well as unbosom themselves, and they don't always trouble to write to us about it.

"WOMAN WORKER" (Sandyford).—"We cannot live on air." Quite right. And that's the trouble with many discharged soldiers who cannot obtain jobs because women fill their places.

(Continued on next page.)

OUR XMAS GIFT OFFER

THE "JOHN BULL" PEN GIFT COUPON

(VALUE ONE SHILLING)

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Had yours yet? If not Send at Once.

"JOHN BULL" Pen Coupon. Value 2d.

By sending this Coupon with P.O. for 3/3, and 1½d. stamps for postage, the holder is entitled to receive a "John Bull" Gold Nibbed Fountain Pen, STANDARD MODEL. Additional Coupons up to 6 from "John Bull" from this date may be saved and used in part payment, each counting as 2d. off the price. Thus, you may send 7 coupons, and P.O. for 2/3 only, and 1½d. stamps for postage.

DE LUXE MODEL, 1/3 Extra.

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N.B.—State whether you prefer a Fine, Medium, or Broad Nib.

Letter Bag—Continued.

B. P. K. (Rotherhithe).—". . . but I require damning proof to break through my credulity." Your incredulity, you mean. But we fear the *Times* won't worry about what you want, anyhow.

Mrs. R. C. (Woodhall Spa), mother of 12, wonders, if they all have to go to school till the age of 16, whether she will ever see the end of their schooling. It is that "free" Education for which you pay so dearly in the rates.

J. M. (Store Street).—"I do not know if it will interest your readers to know I have received the parcel sent from Manchester, 22 Dec., 1918." Rather! And half of them will want to know what was in it.

W. F. M. (Custom House, E.).—Your sentiments are in such sweet accord with our own that when we read your letter we gurgled with delight.

"ONE OF THEM" (Bocking).—Your proposal is for an Old Age Pension of 5s. weekly at 65, rising by one shilling yearly till the age of 70. Sounds a practical suggestion.

Mrs. R. F. J. (Chilbolton).—"I know you have already done your best towards making marriage legal between a deceased husband's brother." On the contrary, we are strongly averse from a man being married to himself.

W. R. M. (Fulham).—"I sincerely hope that in future all houses will be accommodated with a bathroom." Hear, hear! We always take a bath once a week, whether we need it or not.

"ABLE SEAMAN" (H.M.S. *Malaya*).—Ah, how you *do* love the girls!

C. R. (London, N.).—"After waiting for five years, surely something on account should be given to Civil Service pensioners." Let them hustle the Treasury.

J. E. M. (Kensal Rise).—Want our opinion of your verses, "not written in view of the Poet Laureateship"? Then you won't be disappointed at missing the job. Verses not so dusty; sentiment irreproachable, and only one naughty rhyme—"been," with "supreme."

"JOHN BULL" POSTCARDS.—Our famous mammoth poster, depicting the interior of the House of Commons and showing the leading politicians, has been reproduced in colours in postcard form, and twenty cards will be forwarded to any reader sending to the Publisher, 93, Long Acre, London, W.C. 2, a self-addressed large envelope, bearing a three-halfpenny stamp.

E. H. (Russell Square, W.C.).—We note that you have been working a lot in hotels. How did you go for gargles?

J. H. (Leith).—Having commenced publication in 1906, we are naturally interested to hear that you have "taken JOHN BULL for 20 years."

J. W. J. (Bromsgrove).—Surely you cannot think it unjust to be required to make way for a demobbed soldier? What did you do before the war?

"LOYALIST" (Drogheda).—"Why the blazes won't the Government do something to help our Irish Police?" Ask us an easier one.

W. L. (Utrecht).—Wanting a copy of your marriage certificate, you sent to the Wandsworth Registry, they sent you to Somerset House, and the House sent it to the Home Office—from which you cannot get it. We do hope you will make things lively for the H.O.

"WONG WEI PONG" (Hong Kong).—"Hong Kong badly needs a "JOHN BULL." Well, why doesn't it have what it needs? We're not jealous.

ALICE W. (Leicester). As you say in your beautiful poem, entitled "Pussyfoot," "We cannot have beer, whisky, brandy, nor gin, If he and his party the battle should win."

A. E. M. A.—"Do get that summertime abolished. I hate it." That settles it. Consider it abolished in deference to your feelings—till next year.

"A REGULAR READER" (Stockport).—"I have a copy of a paper called *John Bull*, price 7d., dated March 25, 1821, headed, "For God, The King, and the People!" That was one of our worthy predecessors. Our title and sentiments are the same, and only the price differs.

R. T. (Milton Regis). Never mind the *Daily Herald*. Much cry and little wool, as the farmer said when he shaved the pig.

A. E. G. (Seattle, U.S.A.).—Our strong impression is that, if we could decipher your letter we should like it. Do you write any clearer in Welsh or Yiddish?

"READER" (Garrick Club).—Your verse begins, "Woman seldom breaks her heart." Well, surely you don't wish her to do it often? Once is more than enough.

J. E. B. (Bournemouth).—". . . So a cheer for all, a happy hooray, for everybody on Christmas Day." Who pays for the beers gets the cheers. But you seem to be up rather early.

"SISTER TO STARVING AGENT" (London).—"*Re* 'Pearl of Great Price,' I suppose you are aware that the agents are about to go on strike?" No; we hope they will get a living without it.

B. C. M. (Watford).—"Which is the correct way to pronounce Holborn? Is it Hol-born, or Ho-born?" The latter. You leave out the "l," as you should be very pleased to do.

"AN" (Ealing).—What a rumpus because the 'bacey people won't sell you the cigarettes in tins exposed in their windows! You would be wilder if they did, for they are probably dummies.

MRS. E. M. (Shepherd's Bush, W.).—Thanks for full report of the "Pussyfoot" meeting. No brickbats, we hope.

E. R. (Wolverhampton).—"What *really* is the signature on the new Treasury Notes?" Send us one along and we will endeavour to decipher it for you.

"RAILWAY SERVANT" (Wakefield).—Sorry no room to "insert your case," but the reform of the Old-Age Pension scheme is a matter we have closely at heart.

W. H. G. (No Address) It is a fact that the birds migrate in the winter, travelling eastward to Egypt and beyond, but whether they go "in flocks or in groups" is a question our ornithological expert leaves undecided.

"SOLDIER'S WIFE" (Bootle). Thanks for anecdote. You should have heard the office-boy cackle.

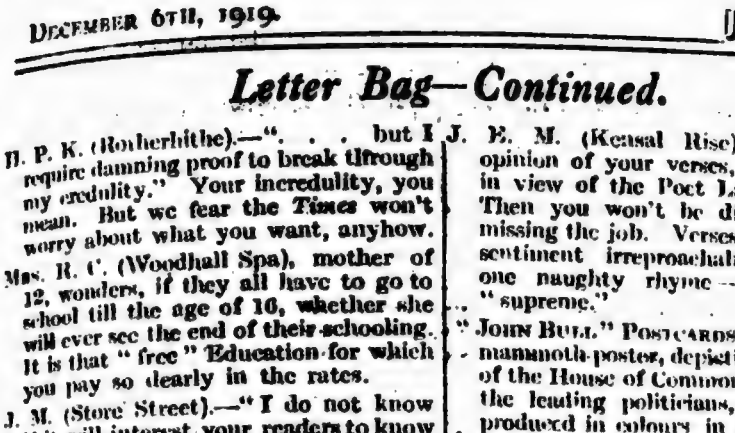
G. T. S. (Victoria). "There was a man named Bottomley, Lloyd George says, 'Oh, he's hot-on-me'; but devil the bit, Horatio likes David's grit, So they helped one another and 'Gotomee'"? Go away, or we shall catch you bending.

"RATEPAYER" (Balham). Now that the Socialists have been allowed to collar Wandsworth, it is likely, we understand, that the ratepayers will have a great deal more to grumble at.

"SOLDIER" (Cologne). Was bedeutet das? Schweigen Sie meaning *Hold your jaw! Shut your shop!*

(Many replies are unavoidably held over.)

Daily Mishaps



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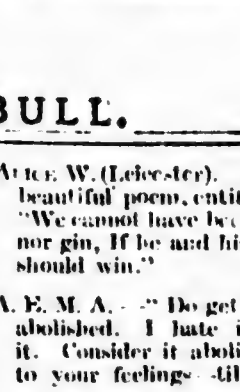

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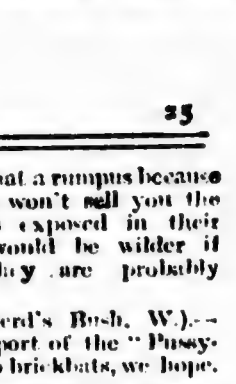

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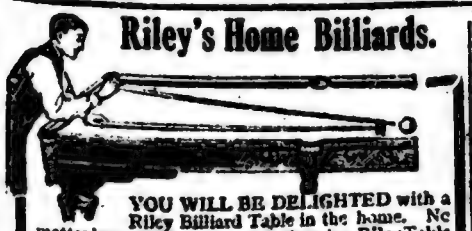

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You alone know where it is.

Only £2 2s.

Same size as a brick—easily fitted invisibly into your wall—keeps your valuables far safer than tin box, or ordinary safe. You can let it into any wall in hidden position (as behind picture, furniture, etc.), giving absolute security. Best hardened steel door, good six-lever lock (no two alike), and secret device making keyhole practically invisible. Easy to fit in by yourself (list explains how) or bricklayer will do it in hour. Ideal for homes, hotels, rectories, shops, etc. Two sizes 9 ins., 42/-; 13 ins., 59/-. Sent car. paid on receipt of cash. Money back if dissatisfied and returned sound in 10 days car. paid. Cement for fixing one safe 1/6 extra. Don't wait for burglars but order to-day before you suffer loss, or send for list and local agent to sole makers—

BRICK SAFE CO., 227, Moseley St., Birmingham

Ingersol lite

LOCATER PENDANT

Glow in the Dark

HOW annoying to enter a dark room and stumble over chairs, etc., whilst groping to get a light. You can abolish this annoyance by using these neat, permanently luminous indicators.

Attach Locaters to obstructive furniture and you can walk about the darkest room in perfect comfort; hang a Pendant on each switch, gas tap and lamp winder, and you can locate them instantly. A Locater on the match box enables you to find it instantly in the dark. Many other uses will suggest themselves to you.

Ingersol-lite Locater, adhesive or thumb-tack, and Ingersol-lite Pendant 1/6 each, from all dealers, or sent direct on receipt of price.

INGERSOLL WATCH Co., Ltd. (Dept. L339), 170, Regent St., London, W.1.

THE "JOHN BULL" GUARANTEE.

We guarantee the goods advertised by every firm whose trade announcement appears in JOHN BULL, *i.e., we hold ourselves responsible for their being of the quality and standard represented at the time of purchase and the date of payment, either in full or of first instalment, and if any reader can show just cause for dissatisfaction with the purchase of any goods made through any trade advertisement in our columns, we will refund the purchase money, provided the goods complained of are sent to us within one week from the date of original purchase. All communications should be addressed to* JOHN BULL, *Advertisement Department, 93, Long Acre, London, W.C.2.*

Abridgment of Offer for Sale.

The List of Applications for purchase will be closed on or before the 8th day of December, 1919.

BUCHANAN-DEWAR Limited

(Incorporated under the Companies Acts, 1908 and 1913.)

CAPITAL.

	Authorised.	*Issued*
6 per Cent. Cumulative Preference Shares of £1 each	£2,500,000	£2,267,038
7½ per Cent. Cumulative Preference Shares of £1 each, being the Shares, 1,500,000 of which are now offered for sale	£2,500,000	£2,500,000
Ordinary Shares of £1 each	£2,500,000	£1,882,542
	£7,500,000	£6,649,580

OFFER FOR SALE of

1,500,000 7½ per Cent. Cumulative Preference Shares of £1 each at Par, Part of an issue of 2,500,000 of such Shares, the remaining 1,000,000 of which the Directors have agreed to purchase.

Dividends on the Shares now offered for sale will be payable on the first day of May and the 1st day of November in every year, the first dividend being payable on the 1st day of May next, and calculated on the amount for the time being paid up thereon from the respective dates of payment.

LLOYDS BANK LIMITED, 72, LOMBARD STREET, E.C.3,

MANCHESTER & LIVERPOOL DISTRICT BANKING COMPANY, LIMITED, 75, CORNHILL, E.C.3, and

BANK OF SCOTLAND, Edinburgh,

who are the Bankers of the Company, are authorised by the IMPERIAL AND FOREIGN CORPORATION, LIMITED, of 1, Broad Street Place, E.C.2, the subscribers of the Shares, to receive at their Head Offices and Branches applications for the purchase of the above 1,500,000 Seven-and-a half per Cent. Cumulative Preference Shares of £1 each at par, payable as follows:

2s. 6d. on Application, 7s. 6d. on Acceptance, 10s. 0d. on the 17th day of January, 1920 = £1 0s. 0d.

The following is a copy of a letter addressed to the Imperial and Foreign Corporation, Limited, by Mr. James Buchanan and Lord Forteviot on behalf of the Board.

25th November, 1919.

To the Imperial and Foreign Corporation, Limited,
1, Broad Street Place, E.C.2.

Gentlemen,

With reference to the 7½ per cent. Cumulative Preference Shares which you have purchased we submit the following information:—

Buchanan-Dewar Limited was formed in January, 1916, under the name of Scotch Whisky Brands Limited (which name was recently changed to Buchanan-Dewar Limited) to combine the well-known firms of James Buchanan & Company Limited, John Dewar & Sons Limited, and W. P. Lowrie & Company Limited.

Buchanan-Dewar Limited holds all the Ordinary Shares of the first two Companies which were acquired in exchange for Preference or Ordinary Shares of this Company. The whole of the Ordinary Shares of W. P. Lowrie & Company Limited are also held by this Company and James Buchanan and Company Limited. The amount of the Preference Shares of the subsidiary Companies is £910,038, and in addition there are Debentures outstanding in W. P. Lowrie & Company Limited amounting to £192,200.

The three operating Companies have had a long and highly prosperous career. Their joint earnings over the last eight years are set forth in the following certificate from Messrs. Price, Waterhouse & Co., who have investigated the books and accounts:—

3, Frederick's Place, Old Jewry, London, E.C. *25th November* 1919.

To the Directors of Buchanan-Dewar Limited.

Gentlemen,

We have examined the books and accounts of James Buchanan and Company Limited; John Dewar and Sons Limited; and W. P. Lowrie and Company Limited, and have ascertained the combined profits of these Companies, after making necessary adjustments and charging all expenses, including Management Remuneration, Excess Profits Duty, and Dividends on their Preference Shares, but before deducting Income Tax and Interest on Loans to be repaid out of the present issue.

In the case of James Buchanan and Company Limited, and W. P. Lowrie and Company Limited, the profits for the first four years, included in the figures set out below, are those for the years ended the preceding 30th September, at which date their financial year then closed. Thereafter the results of all three concerns are brought up to the 31st March in each year. The profits, therefore, for the period to 31st March, 1916, are for 18 months in the case of James Buchanan and Company Limited and W. P. Lowrie and Company Limited, and for 14 months in the case of John Dewar and Sons Limited.

The profits so ascertained were as follows:—

Year to 31st January,	1912	£458,812	
,, ,,	1913	480,480	
,, ,,	1914	445,884	
,, ,,	1915	464,392	after deducting excess profits duty.
Period to 31st March,	1916	700,218	,, ,, ,,
Year to 31st March,	1917	839,166	,, ,, ,,
,, ,,	1918	728,471	,, ,, ,,
,, ,,	1919	725,182	,, ,, ,,

AN ANNUAL AVERAGE OF ... ... £586,836.

The profits for the half-year to 30th September, 1919, are substantially in excess of those for the corresponding period of the previous year.

We are, Gentlemen, Yours faithfully,
PRICE, WATERHOUSE & CO.

The net tangible assets of the subsidiary Companies, taking the large stocks of whisky at a conservative valuation, apart from the very valuable goodwill, and after deducting all liabilities, and the amounts required for repayment of their Preferred Shares, but adding thereto the proceeds of the present issue, which will be available for their benefit, amount to at least £10,000,000 at the present time.

It will be observed from the above certificate from Messrs. Price, Waterhouse and Co. that the Average Profits accruing to this Company, after deducting Excess Profits Duty, amount to £586,836, which, after deducting the Dividend on the 6 per Cent. Preference Shares, leaves £450,814 available, out of which to meet the Dividend on the present issue. This Dividend is therefore covered more than twice, after making full allowance for all prior charges and without adding anything for the increased profits which may accrue from the additional Working Capital. Further, the assets, including the proceeds of the present issue and after deducting all prior securities, will leave a margin of three times the present issue.

The Dividends paid on the Ordinary Shares of Buchanan-Dewar, Limited, have been as follows:—

Year to 31st March,	1916	15 per cent., free of tax.
,, ,, ,,	1917	25 ,, ,, ,,
,, ,, ,,	1918	20 ,, ,, ,,
,, ,, ,,	1919	15 ,, ,, ,,
Half-year to 30th September,	1919	15 ,, ,, ,,

The object of the present issue is to pay off loans and to provide further Working Capital for the subsidiary businesses.

The subsidiary Companies are firmly established and have a world-wide connection. Their brands have for a long number of years occupied a leading position in all export markets; on the home markets the names of Buchanan and Dewar are household words.

In conclusion the Directors have every confidence that the success in the past will be more than sustained in the future.

Yours faithfully, JAMES BUCHANAN, } *On behalf of*
FORTEVIOT. } *the Board.*

Particulars of this Offer for Sale and Application Forms may be obtained from the Imperial and Foreign Corporation, Limited, or from any of the Bankers or Brokers, or the Offices of the Company.

BUCHANAN-DEWAR LIMITED.

Directors.

JAMES BUCHANAN, Esq., Lavington Park, Petworth, Sussex.
LORD FORTEVIOT, Dupplin Castle, Perth.
LORD DEWAR, Homestall, East Grinstead, Sussex.
WILLIAM HARRISON, Esq., 57, Hanover Gate Mansions, N.W.1.
ALEXANDER JOHN CAMERON, Esq., Beechwood, Perth, Scotland.
EDWARD AUGUSTUS LUNDY, Esq., Englefield, Walton-on-Thames.

Bankers.

LLOYDS BANK LIMITED, 72, Lombard Street, E.C.3.
MANCHESTER AND LIVERPOOL DISTRICT BANKING COMPANY LIMITED, 75, Cornhill, E.C.3.
BANK OF SCOTLAND, Perth.

Brokers.

MYERS and CO., 19, Throgmorton Avenue, E.C.2.
BASIL MONTGOMERY and CO., 37, Threadneedle Street, E.C.2.
BUCHANAN, GAIRDNER and TENNANT, 19, St. Vincent Place, Glasgow.

Solicitors.

BIRCHAM and CO., 50, Old Broad Street, E.C.2 (for the Company).
GUEDALLA, JACOBSON and SPYER, Winchester House, Old Broad Street, E.C.2 (for the Imperial and Foreign Corporation, Limited).

Auditors.

PRICE, WATERHOUSE and CO., 3, Frederick's Place, Old Jury, E.C.2.

Secretary and Registered Offices.

W. G. MARTIN, 3, Frederick's Place, Old Jewry, E.C.2 (pro tem.).

This Form of Application may be used.

OFFER FOR SALE of

1,500,000 7½ per Cent. Cumulative Preference Shares of £1 each at par,

Part of an Issue of 2,500,000 of such Shares, the remaining 1,000,000 of which the Directors have agreed to purchase in

BUCHANAN - DEWAR, LIMITED.

(Incorporated under the Companies Acts, 1908 and 1915.)

To the IMPERIAL AND FOREIGN CORPORATION, LIMITED. **33**
1 BROAD STREET PLACE, LONDON, E.C.2

Gentlemen,

Having paid to your Bankers the sum of £....., being a deposit of 2s. 6d. per Share on application for.....Shares of £1 each under the above offer for sale, I/we offer to purchase that number of such Shares at par, and I/we undertake and agree to accept such Shares, or any less number of Shares in respect of which you may accept this offer, upon the terms of the full Particulars of Offer dated the 1st December, 1919, and subject to the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Company, and I/we agree to pay the sum of 7s. 6d. per Share on the acceptance of my/our offer, and 10s. per Share, being the balance of the purchase money, on or before the 17th January, 1920.

I/we hereby declare that I am not (no one of us is) a person resident or carrying on business in any country at war with Great Britain, or treated as an enemy under any Proclamation relating to trading with the enemy, or mentioned, or a member of a body of persons mentioned, in the Statutory List under Trading with the Enemy (Statutory List) Proclamation, 1916, No. 3, or an enemy subject within the meaning of the Trading with the Enemy Amendment Act, 1916, and that such offer is not made by me/us on behalf of, or in any manner for the benefit of any such person as aforesaid.

Yours faithfully,

PLEASE PRINT DISTINCTLY.

Usual Signature .....
Surname .....
Christian Name or Names .....
Address .....
.....
Profession or Occupation .....
(A Lady should state whether she is a Spinster, Wife, or Widow.)

Date .....1919.

This Form to be sent entire with the deposit of 2s. 6d. per Share on the number of Shares applied for to one of the following Banks:—
LLOYDS BANK LIMITED, 72, Lombard Street, London, E.C.3;
MANCHESTER and LIVERPOOL DISTRICT BANKING CO., LTD., 75, Cornhill, London, E.C.3;
BANK OF SCOTLAND, Edinburgh; or any of the Branches of these Banks.

Cheques should be made payable to one of the above Banks, or Bearer, and crossed NOT NEGOTIABLE. If altered from "Order" to "Bearer" the alteration should be signed by the Drawer.

An acknowledgment will be forwarded in due course either by Acceptance Letter or return of the deposit.

The NATIONAL NEWS takes national views—every Sunday.

ABRIDGED PROSPECTUS.

A Copy of the full Prospectus has been filed with the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies.
Application will be made in due course to the Committee of the London Stock Exchange for special permission to deal in these shares and a quotation.
The Subscription List will open on Monday, 1st December, 1919, and close on or before Wednesday, 3rd December, 1919, for Town, and on or before Thursday, 4th December, 1919, for Country applications.

HARPER BEAN LIMITED

(Incorporated under the Companies Acts, 1908 to 1917.)

CAPITAL - - - £6,000,000

DIVIDED INTO

3,000,000 8 per Cent. Cumulative Participating Preference Shares of £1 each, and 3,000,000 Ordinary Shares of £1 each.

ISSUE OF

The above mentioned 3,000,000 8 per cent. Cumulative Participating Preference Shares of £1 each, and 3,000,000 Ordinary Shares of £1 each, at par.

The Preference Shareholders are entitled to a fixed Cumulative Preferential Dividend of 8 per cent. per annum, to 25 per cent. of the surplus profits of each year (after providing for the payment of a Dividend of 10 per cent. on the Ordinary Shares), and in a winding-up to the repayment of their capital and all arrears (if any), of dividend in priority to the Ordinary Shareholders, and to 25 per cent. of the surplus assets remaining after repayment to the Ordinary Shareholders of the amount of the Ordinary Share Capital, but to no further participation in profits or assets.

The Ordinary Shareholders are entitled to a fixed non-Cumulative Dividend of 10 per cent. per annum, and to 75 per cent. of the surplus profits for each year.

The amount of the Capital offered for Public Subscription will be allotted in the proportion of one Ordinary Share for every two Preference Shares allotted.

Subscribers for the Preference Shares are not obliged to take Ordinary Shares, and any surplus of Ordinary Shares so caused will be allotted within the discretion of the Directors.

Payment in full may be made on allotment or on the 15th day of January, 1920, in which case interest at the rate of 6½ per cent. per annum will be allowed on the amount paid in advance of due date. The shares now offered will rank for dividend according to the due dates of the amounts payable in respect thereof, commencing with the date of allotment.

The Subscription will be payable as to:—

2s. 6d. per Share upon Application; 2s. 6d. per Share upon Allotment; 5s. per Share on 15th January, 1920; 5s. per Share on 15th April, 1920; 5s. per Share 15th July, 1920.

No part of the above issue has been underwritttn, and no underwriters' commission has been or will be paid.

DIRECTORS.

HUBERT JOHN WHITCOMB, Campions, Harlow, Essex, Chairman, British Motor Trading Corporation, Ltd. (Chairman).

ROBERT BURNS, Glenburn, Coventry, Director and General Manager, Swift of Coventry, Ltd.

MAJOR AGUSTUS BASIL HOLT CLERKE, C.B.E., R.A., 4, Ashgate Road, Sheffield, Managing Director of Hadfield's, Ltd.

JONATHAN EDWARD HODGKIN, M.I.E.E., M.I.M.E., Shelleys, Darlington, Director, Motor Union Insurance Co., Ltd.

CHARLES BENSON WARDMAN, Hallcott, Churchtown, Southport, Managing Director, Vulcan Motor and Engineering Co., Ltd.

JAMES ARMSTRONG WILDING, M.I.M.E., M.I.A.E., 48, Bickenhall Mansions, London, W.1., Consulting Engineer.

JOHN HARPER BEAN, C.B.E., Tonsley Hill House, Dudley, Managing Director, A. Harper, Sons & Bean, Ltd. (Managing Director).

BANKERS.—NATIONAL PROVINCIAL AND UNION BANK OF ENGLAND, LTD (Head Office), 15, Bishopsgate, London, E.C. (and Branches).

SOLICITORS.—SLAUGHTER & MAY, 18, Austin Friars, E.C.
ANSELL & SHERWIN, 27, Bennett's Hill, Birmingham.
MANSON & TURNER MACFARLANE, W.S., 24, Blythswood Square, Glasgow, and 29r Queen Street, Edinburgh.

BROKERS.—TRITTON, LABOUCHERRE & CARO, 33, Old Broad Street, London E.C.

AUDITORS.—ALFRED TONGUE & CO., Chartered Accountants, 13, St. Ann Street, Manchester, and at 54, West George Street, Glasgow.

SECRETARY AND REGISTERED OFFICE.—W. J. COLLINS, 50, Pall Mall, London, S.W.

ABRIDGED PROSPECTUS.

OBJECTS.—The Company is formed for the purpose of carrying on the businesses set forth in the Memorandum of Association and in particular to carry on the business of Ironfounders, Metal Workers and Manufacturers and Distributors of Motor Vehicles and all component parts thereof.

The Company will acquire the following interests:—

99 per cent. of the Shares in A. HARPER, SONS AND BEAN, LTD., of Dudley, Tipton and Smethwick.
166,666 of the Shares in HADFIELD'S, LTD., of Hecla Works, Sheffield (subject to confirmation by their Shareholders).
60 per cent. (approximately) of the Shares in THE VULCAN MOTOR AND ENGINEERING CO., LTD., of Crossens, Southport.
50 per cent. of the Ordinary Shares in SWIFT OF COVENTRY, LTD., Cheylesmore, Coventry.
50 per cent. of the Ordinary Shares in BRITISH MOTOR TRADING CORPORATION, LTD. (fully paid).
50 per cent. of the Ordinary Shares in HARVEY FROST, LTD.
100 per cent. of the Shares in RUSHMORES (1919), LTD.
100 per cent. of the Shares in JIGS, LTD.
100 per cent. of the Shares in REGENT CARRIAGE CO., LTD.
100 per cent. of the Shares in GALLAY RADIATOR CO., LTD., and all the assets of AEROMOTOR COMPONENTS CO.
100 per cent. of the Shares in ALEX. MOSSES RADIATOR CO., LTD.

The balance of the cash proceeds of this issue, amounting to £2,784,258 7s. 6d., will be applied, subject to the payment of the preliminary expenses, which are payable by the Company, and are estimated not to exceed (exclusive of brokerage) £50,000, to:—

(a) Extending the very important plant of A. Harper, Sons and Bean, Ltd., for producing drop forgings, castings, stampings, and kindred products.
(b) To extending the plant for mass production of the Bean Car upon a basis of 50,000 cars per annum.
(c) To laying out a complete engine and transmission plant for producing 50,000 complete sets of Units for the Vulcan Motor and Engineering Co., Ltd., Swift of Coventry, Ltd., and other motor manufacturing companies with whom negotiations are in progress.
(d) To providing the necessary raw material and stock of all kinds necessary to maintaining mass production.
(e) To developing special plant for producing Motor Bodies cheaply, including the new aluminium alloy body of which Messrs. A. Harper, Sons and Bean, Ltd., hold the World's Patent Rights.
(f) To developing the plant for manufacturing radiators under the patents of Alex Mosses Radiator Co., Ltd., and Gallay Radiator Co., Ltd.
(g) To developing the plant for producing electric lighting sets and self-starters for motor-cars, and other electrical equipment.
(h) Generally to acquiring and developing interests for safeguarding and promoting all the various processes and businesses necessary to securing and maintaining mass production of complete Motor Vehicles of all types by the Companies included in the combination.

From amongst the Companies a Manufacturing Board will be formed under the chairmanship of Mr. John Harper Bean. This Board will settle all general manufacturing policy, including standardisation of design.

A great saving will be effected by combining the Policy and Control of all the Companies under one Central Manufacturing Board. It is estimated that greatly increased ratios of profits will be assured by each Company when working under these methods than hitherto attained by them as separate undertakings. The amalgamated interests will be able to offer the public their products at substantially lower prices than would be possible without such co-ordination of interests.

The Company will thus be enabled successfully to combat foreign competition and secure an adequate share of overseas trade for Great Britain.

The business of Messrs. A. Harper, Sons and Bean, Ltd., was established in 1826, and to-day is the largest of its special kind in the United Kingdom. The drop forgings, castings and stampings of the Firm are used by many Motor Manufacturing Companies, as well as by other Engineering Works, Corporations, etc. Its business can be claimed to be a Key Industry. The demand for its products is so great that further capital can be very profitably employed. With the allocation of only a portion of the balance of cash capital to be secured under this issue, it is estimated that sufficient profit can be earned by the foundries and stamping works to provide an annual return of 10 per cent. upon the entire Capital of £6,000,000. Additional Profit upon the mass production of Cars by this Company is estimated to be from £300,000 in 1920 to £1,000,000 in 1923, whilst the profit upon the mass production of Units by this Company for the Associated Companies is estimated to be from £50,000 in 1920 to £1,000,000 in 1923.

The additional capital required by the Associated Companies will be small in comparison with the increased output to be achieved, and it is anticipated that the return upon the investment in these Companies will yield upwards of 10 per cent. per annum.

The programme for the Vulcan Motor and Engineering Co., Ltd., aims under this Combination at producing 10,000 Motor Vehicles, against its output in the past of 500 per annum.

The programme for Swift of Coventry, Ltd., aims at producing six times its previous highest output.

Swift of Coventry, Ltd., are one of the pioneers of the Automobile Industry and their products have a world wide reputation.

The British Motor Trading Corporation, Ltd., which was formed under the auspices of the Motor Union Insurance Company, Ltd., will undertake the entire wholesale distribution and service organisation, thus enabling the Manufacturing Companies to devote all their energies to production. In this connection they will have the assistance of Agents of all the Companies in the Combination. Arrangements are in progress for establishing efficient export and exploitation of the products of the Combination in all parts of the World.

Arrangements have been made with Messrs. Hadfield's, Ltd., whereby the Associated Companies will be assured of an ample supply of the best steel for Motor Car Construction. The use of the Laboratories and Research Department for testing, etc., available at this well known Sheffield firm will be invaluable. The Company will hold a substantial block of Shares in Messrs. Hadfield's, Ltd., as part of the arrangement.

The present production of cars and parts by the respective Companies will not be arrested, but all the units required for the increased output will be provided by the main manufacturing Company ready for the change over to mass production assembly. In this manner there will be no gap in production of profit earning by the Associated Companies.

The great advantages of this Combination from a Motor Manufacturing point of view will be security of supplies, centralisation of policy and continuity of production.

Special care is being taken to see that production is not held up by shortage of any one part.

There will be one Purchasing Department for the entire Combination. Each of the Companies included in the group will receive the benefit of such saving as can be effected by this Department upon their proportion of purchases.

Production of complete sets of units will commence in January at the rate of approximately 50 per week, and is expected to increase gradually to 300 per week by July, 1920, 600 per week by December, 1920, 1,000 per week by July, 1921, and 2,000 per week by July, 1922.

Concurrently the Foundries and Stamping Works will expand.

Upon the programme laid down the turnover of the entire Combination should reach £30,000,000 per annum in 1923. This is assuming an average reduction in selling prices of 40 per cent. over those prevailing in 1919 for vehicles similar in type to those which the Combination will produce.

The minimum subscription fixed by the Articles of Association on which the Directors may proceed to allotment is 600,000 Shares, but as firm applications for 2,800,000 Shares have been received, and 1,450,000 Shares will be issued as part purchase consideration, the Directors will proceed to allotment on the closing of the lists.

Copies of the Contracts mentioned in the full prospectus and a print of the Company's Memorandum and Articles of Association may be seen at the office of the Company's Solicitors, Slaughter & May, 18, Austin Friars, London, E.C.2, between the hours of 11 and 4 at any time up to allotment.

Where the number of Shares allotted is less than the number applied for, the balance of the application money will be applied in payment of the amounts due on allotment and any balance remaining will be refunded. If no allotment is made the application money will be returned in full. Interest at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum will be charged on instalments in arrear. Failure to pay any instalments will render previous payments liable to forfeiture and the allotment to be cancelled.

A Brokerage of 3d. per Share will be paid on allotment in respect of applications bearing a Broker's Stamp.

Complete Prospectuses and Forms of Application may be obtained from the Company's Offices, or from the Company's Bankers, Brokers or Solicitors.

No. 162.

For Sundays: Morning, the NATIONAL NEWS; evening, the SUNDAY EVENING TELEGRAM.

Your Last Chance!

'BULLETS' XMAS BOX

1ST PRIZE £1,000

2ND Prize £100

10 PRIZES OF £5

50 PRIZES OF 10/-

400 PRIZES OF 5/-

1ST PRIZE 3RD Prize £25

10 PRIZES OF £2-10/-

1,000 PRIZES OF 2/6

7,000 "TARGET" PRIZES

HOW TO MAKE "BULLETS." First choose any of the 10 examples given below. Then give **TWO, THREE** or **FOUR** words (having a bearing on the example chosen). Any **ONE** of the words selected must begin with any letter in the example chosen. The other words selected can begin with any letter in the alphabet. This example will guide you:—Example:—WHAT A NUISANCE. Bullet:—TOMMY HAS CHRISTMAS DAY. Competitors may send in two BULLETS for a penny.

LIST OF EXAMPLES FOR "BULLETS" COMPETITION No. 356.

WHEN BOTTOMLEY RISES	JOE BECKETT	NATIONAL DEBT	WHAT NATION WANTS
WHAT'S WRONG	ON THE JAW	READY RECKONER	ALWAYS TOO LATE
WORKERS	BIG FIGHT	WHAT A NUISANCE	BACHELOR DAYS
WON'T HAPPEN AGAIN	UNPAID BILL	HANDS OFF	UNDER THE MISTLETOE
VERY SIMPLE	A BAD LAD	LABOUR IN VAIN	HUBBY'S EXCUSE
HOW STRIKE BEGINS	MORE WHISKEY	WIFE'S GIFT	WHEN LEAST EXPECTED
FAST AND LOOSE	PRETTY MAID	THE RIGHT SHOP	CAN'T SAY WHEN
GERMANY HOPES	A NASTY SNUB	LOWER PRICES	WELL LOOKED AFTER
IN A MESS	GIVE AND TAKE	DIVORCED	WITHOUT QUESTION
THE FLAPPER'S LAMENT	WE ALL FANCY	MY CHRISTMAS BOX	THE HOME TEAM

Closing Date, Thursday, December 11th

Example_____

Bullet

Example_____

Bullet

(356) P.O. No._____

I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page.

If 4 coupons are used P.O. for 1/- must be sent.

Signed_____

Address_____

IF UNABLE TO SECURE EXTRA COUPONS YOU CAN WRITE YOUR "BULLETS" ON PLAIN PAPER.

Closing Date, Thursday, December 11th.

Example_____

Bullet

Example_____

Bullet

(356) P.O. No._____

I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page.

If 4 coupons are used P.O. for 1/- must be sent.

Signed_____

Address_____

ENVELOPES SHOULD BE MARKED "BULLETS" No 356, "JOHN BULL," LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.2

Closing Date, Thursday, December 11th.

Example_____

Bullet

Example_____

Bullet

(356) P.O. No._____

I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page.

If 4 coupons are used P.O. for 1/6 must be sent.

Signed_____

Address_____

Closing Date, Thursday, December 11th.

Example_____

Bullet

Example_____

Bullet

(356) P.O. No._____

I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page.

If 4 coupons are used P.O for 2/- must be sent.

Signed_____

Address_____

BULLETS RULES. 1. The First Prize will be awarded for what, in the opinion of the Judges, in consultation with the Editor, is the best "Bullet" received, and the other prizes in order of merit, the test being cleverness, aptness and originality. The right to divide a prize or prizes among two or more competitors is reserved.

2. Bullets must be plainly written on one of the coupons, and only two attempts may be written on each coupon.

3. All four coupons may be used, but each coupon must be accompanied by a postal order for 4d., made payable to JOHN BULL and crossed __ and Co. __ Competitors must write their names and addresses and the date of sending the order on the back of the postal order, the number of which must be duly noted on each coupon submitted. Competitors sending more than one coupon may enclose one postal order for the full amount covering the number of their coupons. Coupons must not be detached in any manner.

4. All coupons arriving too late to be judged with absolute thoroughness will be duly returned to their respective senders.

5. The Editor undertakes that every Bullet received shall have careful consideration by a competent staff of qualified judges.

6. The Editor's decision on any matter of dispute arising in connection with this competition must be accepted as final and legally binding in all respects, and acceptance of this rule is an express condition of entry

Result of 354th 'Bullets' Competition

FIRST PRIZE OF £250:

Mr. C. J. PULLIN, Junr., "Eaglehurst," Hatfield Rd., Torquay.

Example:—PREMIUM BONDS.

Bullet:—MUSTN'T DIE "WITHOUT ISSUE."

SECOND PRIZE OF £20:

Mr. R. GALE, 58, Sandown Rd., Strandtown, Belfast.

Example:—TAXING WAR FORTUNES.

Bullet:—MOTOR SHOW REVEALED NECESSITY.

THIRD PRIZE OF £10:

Mr. J. McKENZIE, 4, East London St., Edinburgh.

Example:—DRINKING WATER.

Bullet:—SOME PEOPLE "LIKE ANYTHING."

10 PRIZES OF £5 EACH:

MR. H. C. JAMES, 213, Rookery Rd., Handsworth: AFTER ALL—MISSUS TRIPS HARD, SATURDAYS.

MR. P. B. CASEY, 98, Trongate, Glasgow: A COOL HEAD—REMAINED ON DESPITE THREATS.

MR. F. W. BARTHOLOMEW, 46, Buckland Avenue, Dover: STICKING TO IT—"SOLD". ON PEACE TREATY.

MR. A. L. WILLIAMS, Castle Square, Haverfordwest: WHEN KAISER'S TRIED—ARE THINGS ALREADY "ARRANGED."

MR. E. CASS, 11, Victoria Terrace, Bradford: LIVE MAN—MAKES MONEY "DOUBLE QUICK."

MR. W. P. HILL, 7, Pierpoint St., Warrington: STICKING TO IT REWARD OFTEN REASON FOR.

MR. W. C. DAWES, 314, London Rd., Dover: TIRED FEELING SEEMS PERMANENT—PEACE DOESN'T.

MR. F. WALKER, 10, Estick St., London, E.: KILLING THE GOOSE—WON'T FATTEN THE FOOLS.

MR. C. HOLDER, 18, Markham Sq., Chelsea, S.W.: LIVE MAN—ALWAYS "HUSTLES SOME."

GUARDSMAN A. MORRIS, 3rd Coldstream Gds., Wimbledon Common: AFTER ALL—THE MONEY CHANCELLOR'S "OUT."

10 PRIZES OF £2 10s. EACH:

MR. J. T. PHILLIPS, 4, Allars Crest., Hawick: LIVE MAN—WATCHES MOVES, OTHERS MOVIES.

MR. E. SMITH, "Durham Ox" Ind, Macclesfield: WE ALL WANT MORE PUSH, LESS ELBOWING.

MR. J. OWEN, The Cottage, Hutton, Somerset: LIVE MAN OFTEN "WAKES UP" MASTER.

MRS. S. KNIGHT, Huncote, nr. Leicester: MUSTN'T BE PLAYED WITH—THIS EDGE, PROHIBITION WEDGE.

MR. A. GARVIN, 88, King St., Salford: PEACEFUL PENETRATION — INTO GERMANY, CROWNING BLUNDER.

MR. G. DAVIS, 4, Belmont Terrace, Buxton: TIRED FEELING FOLLOWS BEING "TOO FREAK."

MR. J. TAYLOR, 38, Addison Rd., Brighton: STICKING TO IT GERMANY'S ARMY AS POLICE.

MR. A. HALL, 45, Provis Rd., Chorlton-c.-Hardy: WHEN KAISER'S TRIED—DIPLOMACY MUSTN'T DERAIL JUSTICE.

MRS. A. SALTER, 606, Gloucester Rd., Horfield, Bristol: GEEING THE BIRD THOSE "WITH THE GUNS."

MR. S. CRICK, 24, Park Avenue, Widnes: KILLING THE GOOSE—PARSON OFFENDING FRONT PEWS.

List of 280 winners of Turkey prizes in Competition No. 354 will be ready next week, and published in the "Competitors' Journal," or it will be forwarded on receipt of a stamped and addressed envelope. Complete list of all cash and other prize-winners can be seen at the offices of "John Bull."

Result of Competition No. 356 will be found in our issue dated Dec. 27th.

THE JOHN BULL GREAT FREE FIRE INSURANCE

COVERING ALL RISKS BY FIRE TO HOME, LIFE & LIMB

UNDER this most unique FREE INSURANCE OFFER anyone above the age of 10 can be insured irrespective of sex. The premium charged by any Fire and Accident Insurance Company to secure similar benefits would certainly exceed 5s. per annum. We offer it to you absolutely free.

We have made our insurance as simple and comprehensive as possible, and shall not bother about any "Legal representative" or "next of kin." Claims will be paid to the registered reader, who must personally sign the coupon, or to the person nominated thereon, and to no one else.

A separate coupon must be filled up in respect to each person to be insured.

This offer applies only to persons residing in, and property situated in, England, Scotland, and Wales.

The full conditions governing this scheme will be published in the first issue of each month.

WHAT WE WILL PAY:

For Damage to contents of Home by Fire up to	£200
In case of Death directly due to Fire at Registered Reader's home	£200
For the Loss of Two Limbs or Both Eyes, or One Limb and One Eye	£200
For the Loss of One Limb or One Eye ..	£100
Medical Fees for Injuries not proving fatal but incapacitating the injured person from following his, or her, employment, up to ..	£10
In the event of a Temporary Total Disablement up to 13 weeks..	£1 per week

ORDER FORM

To be RETAINED BY NEWSAGENT.

To .....Newsagent.

Please deliver "JOHN BULL" to me regularly until further notice

Signed .....

Address .....

Dec. 6, 1919.

You must also fill in the Registration Form, which will be found next to this, and post it to JOHN BULL Insurance Dept., 93, Long Acre, London, W.C.2, where your name and the name of your nominee will be duly registered.

REGISTRATION FORM

Which must be posted to—
JOHN BULL INSURANCE DEPT., Long Acre, W.C.2.

This is to notify that I have this day placed an order for the regular weekly supply of JOHN BULL with

.....Newsagent, of

.....

and desire you to register me as a regular subscriber under the terms of your Insurance Scheme.

In the event of my being injured or killed, or of my home or its contents being damaged, I hereby nominate to receive any payment due under this insurance, first myself, or in the event of my death:—

Name of Nominee .....

Address .....

Signature of Insured .....
(Mr., Mrs., or Miss)

Home Address .....

Dec. 6, 1919.

To remain qualified for the benefits, readers must continue to have "John Bull" regularly supplied to them.

Enclose 2d. Stamp if an acknowledgment of receipt of Registration Form is required.

£3,300 ALREADY PAID OUT IN FOOTBALL PRIZES

THIS SEASON. The Largest Amount Awarded by any Paper.

£250 MUST BE WON!

FOR TEN WINNING TEAMS

OR NEXT LARGEST NUMBER OF WINNING TEAMS.

Our NEW WEEKLY Football Competition is the simplest and most attractive of any, with the biggest must-be-won prize. The sum of £250 will be paid to the sender of ten winning teams selected from those given on the coupon on this page. Should no competitor succeed in giving ten winning teams, the prize of £250 will be awarded to the sender of the next largest number of winning teams. This competition is open for one week and coupons can only be taken from this week's issue. **Remember, £250 must be won this week, so send in YOUR coupon without delay.**

NO ENTRANCE FEE—GREAT ONE-WEEK COMPETITION.

THIS COMPETITION IS EXCLUSIVE TO "JOHN BULL."

Coupons do not appear in any other paper.

The competition is quite free, no entrance fee of any kind being charged. Competitors can send as many coupons as they like. Scottish and Irish readers may compete. A careful study of football form should be made before filling in coupons. The "National News" gives the best and most accurate reports and forecasts every Sunday, which should prove of great assistance to intending competitors.

Cut out coupon neatly and address all entries as follows:—"Football Competition No. 14, JOHN BULL, 23, Floral Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2." Write "Football" in top left-hand corner of envelope. All coupons can be enclosed in one envelope, but this must not contain entries for other competitions.

YOU CAN SEND AS MANY COUPONS AS YOU LIKE.

☞ **For result of Football Competition No. 11 see page 20.**

Read these Rules carefully.

(1) All attempts must be made on coupons taken from the issue of JOHN BULL announcing this competition. Coupons must be written in ink (typewriting or pencil will not be allowed), and must be filled up in accordance with the instructions given on this page.

(2) The sum of £250 (two hundred and fifty pounds) will be paid to the sender of a coupon giving any ten winning teams from amongst those playing on Dec. 13th, given on the coupon on this page. If no competitor succeeds in giving ten winning teams the prize of £250 will be paid to the sender of the next largest number of winning teams. If two or more competitors succeed in giving ten winning teams, or failing that, succeed in sending the next largest number of winning teams, the £250 will be divided equally amongst them.

(3) Any coupon which has marked upon it more than ten Xs or less than ten Xs will be disqualified.

(4) No responsibility will be accepted by the Editor for the loss or non-delivery of any coupon. Proof of posting will not be accepted as proof of delivery or receipt. No correspondence will be entered into nor will interviews be granted.

(5) Any coupon on which an alteration of any kind has been made will be disqualified.

(6) Our employees are debarred from entering this competition.

(7) Any coupons received later than December 11th, will be disqualified.

(8) The Editor's decision must be accepted as final and legally binding in all matters concerning this competition, and acceptance of this rule is an express condition of entry.

HOW TO MARK YOUR COUPONS.

If you think the "Home" team will win put a X in the left-hand column headed "Home Win"; if you think the "Away" team will win put a X in the right-hand column headed "Away Win." Only ten teams must be marked in all. If more or less than ten Xs appear on any one coupon it will be disqualified. Coupons MUST be written in ink.

"JOHN BULL" FREE FOOTBALL COUPON.

Matches to be played Saturday, December 13th. Coupons must reach us not later than Thursday, December 11th.

Home Win	Home Team		Away Team	Away Win
	Liverpool	v.	Middlesbrough	
	Notts County	v.	Everton	
	Sheffield Wednesday	v.	Sunderland	
	Chelsea	v.	The Arsenal	
	Bolton Wanderers	v.	Bradford City	
	Birmingham	v.	Stoke	
	Blackpool	v.	Huddersfield Town	
	Clapton Orient	v.	Nottingham Forest	
	South Shields	v.	Barnsley	
	Crystal Palace	v.	Queen's Park Rangers	
	Northampton	v.	Swindon Town	
	Southend United	v.	Cardiff City	
	Watford	v.	Reading	
	Clyde	v.	Queen's Park	
	Hamilton A.	v.	Albion Rovers	
	Partick Thistle	v.	Motherwell	

☞ **Coupons must be cut—not torn out.**

I enter "John Bull" Football Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions on this page and agree to accept the Editor's decision as final and legally binding, and enter on that understanding.

SIGNED .....

14 ADDRESS.....

.....

The Household Magician

Here's a little tube which dispels your ironmould worries and saves you pounds. Apply a touch of Movol (all Stores are selling it in 1/- and 6d. tubes) to the stain and in a few minutes the stain has gone. No mess, no trouble.

MOVOL
STAIN REMOVER

Removes Ironmould, Rust, Fruit and Ink Stains from Clothing, Marble, &c.

The directions given with each tube must be carefully followed.

From Chemists, Grocers, Stores, etc., in 1/- and 6d. tubes. If unable to obtain, send 1/2 for large trial tube, to

W. EDGE & SONS, Ltd., Bolton.

REMARKABLE OFFER.

LADIES' SHOE BARGAINS.

Every Pair GUARANTEED.

If you want to save money on the cost of your Shoes, buy them direct from the Manufacturers.

16/- PAIR.

Ladies' Shoes. Beautifully made and finished, in good Box Leather, black only. Smart Gibson Style. Sizes 2 to 7, 16/- Pair.

A similar Shoe, but better quality, and in Tony Red only, sizes 2 to 7 18/- pair.

Send Postal Order for correct amount for Shoes desired (adding 6d. for postage), stating size and colour. The shoes will come by return, post paid. If you don't like them when you see them, send them back and we will promptly refund the full amount. WRITE NOW.

We also supply Smart, thoroughly well-made Ladies' Boots in good Box Leather, Derby style ideal for serviceable winter wear. Sizes 2 to 7 Black only, 18/- pair, post free.

THE JAMES SHOE COMPANY

(Dept. J.B.), 143, Lansdowne Road, Leicester.

THE GREAT BRAIN FOOD.

BRAININE

The Only Cure for Brain Fag.

It is a great vitaliser. It builds up, through the brain, the whole nerve system. It makes work a pleasure. It

Solves the Drug Problem.

It is free from strychnine or any poisonous ingredient. It is no quack preparation. It is made up from the prescription of a great Brain Specialist. It is

Strongly recommended by Mr. Horatio Bottomley, M.P.

It is sold in tubes at 1/3 and 3/- To be obtained at the Army and Navy Stores, Boots, and all leading Chemists; or direct, post free, from—

BRAININE 35, Buckingham Gate, LONDON, S.W.

RAINCOATS

33/6 Guaranteed by the Manufacturers.

Stormproof, wear-resisting, and with that smart appearance which every wearer seeks, our Raincoats are guaranteed to give every satisfaction. They are the storm coat for winter, being made of fine quality cloth, thoroughly proofed, in light medium and dark fawn and designed in various styles for Ladies, Gents, Boys and Maids.

Write to-day for full range of patterns and latest style book No. 59. All garments carriage paid and money refunded if not satisfied. Orders are dealt with in strict rotation.

All styles can be full fleeced lined and a fleeced lined Raincoat is as warm as an overcoat, and lighter in weight. Write for particulars.

The Fashion Craft Mills Ltd., (Registered Offices), 39, Victoria Street, Manchester

IF YOU SUFFER

from pains in the Back, Lumbago, Dropsy Gravel, Bright's disease of the Kidneys, Gout, Wind and Water Ailments, Sciatica, Rheumatism, etc.

TAKE

HOLDROYD'S PILLS

On Sale for 40 years.

HUNDREDS OF TESTIMONIALS.
1/3 all Chemists, Post Free 14 Stamps.
PREPARED ONLY AT
HOLDROYD'S MEDICAL HALL, CLECKHEATON, Yorks.

LIVERPOOL VICTORIA

FRIENDLY SOCIETY.

Chief Office: St. Andrew Street, London, E.C.4

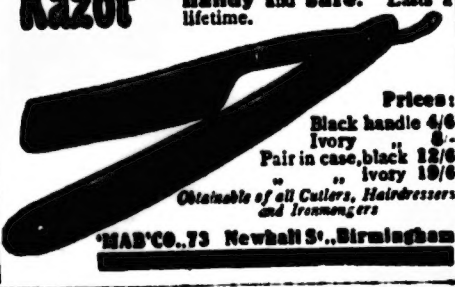
INVESTED FUNDS £7,400,00
ANNUAL INCOME £2,600,000
AMOUNT PAID IN WAR CLAIMS £700,000

Life and Endowment Insurances at Popular Rates

Our numerous Branch Offices and Agents throughout the Kingdom transact National Health Insurance ARTHUR HENRI, Secretary.

THE FAMOUS "Mab" Dwarf Razor

USE A FAMOUS "MAB" DWARF RAZOR and learn what shaving comfort is. Made from an amalgam of the finest Sheffield Steel. Thousands of men in all parts of the world have testified for 25 years to its wonderful efficiency—keen, handy and safe. Lasts a lifetime.



Prices:
Black handle 4/6
Ivory " 6/-
Pair in case, black 12/6
" " ivory 19/6

Obtainable of all Cutlers, Hairdressers and Ironmongers

'MAB' CO., 73 Newhall St., Birmingham

Get Invited!

IF you can play the piano you are always a "Good Company." You are invited to jolly social gatherings, because of your ability to accompany, or to give selections. You can quickly learn to play—without fatigue, without trouble—by the Wright-Higgins system of postal tuition. Results are swift—the drudgery of learning gives place to pleasant, rapid accomplishment—and you become proficient in half the time required by other methods. Be ready to accept those invitations this winter. Send for Booklet Rew, entitled "Training versus Teaching." It is free.

R. WRIGHT-HIGGINS, F.R.G.C., L.Mus., T.C.L., 7, Oak House, Parkhurst Rd., London, N.7.

Wear Ambron Gold Medal Health Corsets

SENT FOR 1/- (See Coupon below)

Don't be satisfied with ill-fitting, figure-spoiling corsets. Send at once for an Ambron Corset, and realise what perfect style and comfort mean.

ILL-FITTING corsets not only ruin the figure, but go a long way towards injuring the Health also. These risks are unknown to the woman who wears only the Ambron Gold Medal Health Corset. The name "Ambron" is a guarantee of glove-like accuracy of fit, combined with comfort, style and perfect Health protection. Superbly modelled on truest beauty lines, the Ambron Corset improves faulty figures and enhances the natural symmetry of those more favoured. Over all is the wonderful value of the Ambron Corset, made possible by cutting out all middle profits and selling direct to you, the wearer. Act now. Fill in the coupon below, and begin the new life of Corset Comfort without further delay.

The full price of the Ambron Corset is only 2/11, but all I ask is that you send me a Deposit of 1/-, and I will send you a pair of Ambron Corsets that will give you perfect comfort, figure correctness, ideal support and grace of line.

How to Order

Simply write your full name and address on a piece of paper, fill in corset measurements on attached coupon, cut out and pin coupon to the paper, and post to me at once. It is most important that you draw two lines right across the postal order thus / /, and make it payable to Ambrose Wilson, Ltd., at G.P.O., London.

NOTE.—Foreign and Colonial Orders must be accompanied by the full amount and 1/6 extra to pay for postage, viz., 10/5.

COUPON. To secure prompt attention to order, this coupon should be cut out and sent with your letter.

Please send me an Ambron Gold Medal Health Corset on approval, size as follows:

Size of Waist..... Bust..... Hips.....

also full printed particulars. I enclose 1/-, together with 9d. to cover PART postage, and if I do not immediately return Corset I will pay you the balance of 2/11. On the other hand, if I return Corset, you are to refund Deposit at once.

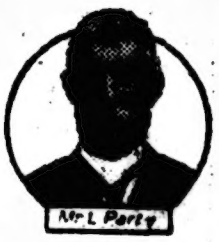
"John Bull," 6/12/19. No. 409.

Address your order to AMBROSE WILSON, Ltd., 469, Alton House, 70, Vauxhall Bridge Road, London, S.W.

(The Largest Mail Order Corset House in the World.)

Nerve Failure

Helpless for Six Years, but Cured by Dr. Cassell's Tablets.



Mr. Lemuel Parry, of Nythfa House, Fennant Road, Ponkey, near Wrexham, says:

"I feel that for the benefit of humanity I must testify to the almost miraculous cure which Dr. Cassell's Tablets have effected in me. Before I commenced taking them I was paralysed from the waist down, and had been so for six years All that time I was in bed helpless. I had to be lifted in and out of bed and attended to just as a child would be. There was no feeling whatever in my legs. I could not feel a needle pushed in. And yet the nerves seemed to be active sometimes, for my knees would jerk up to my chest at times as I lay. I had advice at various times, but I was considered incurable. At last I decided to try Dr. Cassell's Tablets, and after a time I could move my legs a little, and then I used to get out in a bathchair. Steadily I grew stronger in the back, and my legs, too, and in the end was able to go out on crutches. Now I can go about with a walking-stick, but still take the crutches if going very far. All who know me are astonished at my cure."

Dr. Cassell's Tablets

The Universal Home Remedy for

Nervous Breakdown, Nerve Paralysis, Rheumatism, Neuritis, Nervous Debility, Sleeplessness, Anæmia, Bloody Trouble, Indigestion, Back-Pains, Spinal-Weakness, Wasting Diseases

Specially valuable for Nursing Mothers and during the Critical Periods of Life.

HOME PRICES, 1/3 & 3/- (the 3/- size being the more economical). Sold by Chemists in all parts of the world. Ask for DR. CASSELL'S Tablets and *Refuse Substitutes.*

FREE INFORMATION relative to the suitability of Dr. Cassell's Tablets in your case sent on request. Dr. Cassell's Co., Ltd., Chester Road Manchester, England

"I TOOK CICFA—THE ONLY CURE FOR INDIGESTION"

(IN STOMACH AND BOWEL).

"Now I eat whatever I desire."

"I wish all Indigestion Sufferers to know that every word I say is true."

Now Read Mr. David's Words.

3, Fonham Road, Tufnell Park, N.

Dear Sirs,—Some time ago I wrote to you for a sample of your indigestion cure, Cicfa. The sample gave me such instant relief that I continued by purchasing the 1s. 3d. tubes. I had been suffering with Indigestion for about 2½ years, and had tried several other remedies, but I found them all failures. Then I took Cicfa, and found it necessary to take only three or four tubes, and I was and am now able to eat whatever I desire. I think honestly that Cicfa is a most wonderful cure and deserves the highest praise. I always strongly recommend it to any of my friends that I find are afflicted with Indigestion. I really cannot find words to express my gratitude nor my pleasure at having found a remedy which really cures Indigestion as Cicfa has cured mine. I only hope that if you publish this letter those sufferers from Indigestion who read it will believe that every word I say is true, and will immediately take Cicfa, the only certain cure. Thanking you for my present health and for being able to enjoy life again. Yours truly,

F. L. DAVID.

READ THE EXPLANATION.—If you are suffering from Indigestion, whatever the cause may be, you are likely to think that a remedy which cures others may not suit your case because you think yours is different, and your symptoms may be different; but the root causes of all cases of uncomplicated Indigestion are always the same, that is, there is not enough of the Digestive Ferments which Nature must have to digest the Albuminous food in the Stomach and also to digest the Starchy food in the Bowel.

Without these Digestive Ferments, one person will suffer with Heartburn, Wind, and Gas-rising, White Coated Tongue, Sharp Headache, Blotched Complexion, Red Nose, Flushed Face, etc.; while another will suffer from Flatulence, Bilious Symptoms, caused by obstructed Bile Circulation, Acidity with teeth on edge, and attacks of Gout and Rheumatism, and Constipation, with all the misery which it causes; but whether you have some or all of these symptoms, YOU CAN BE PERFECTLY CURED ONLY BY A REMEDY WHICH CONTAINS NATURE'S DIGESTIVE FERMENTS. Without those ferments you may "happen" to get well, but with them you cannot fail to be cured, and THOSE FERMENTS ARE FOUND ONLY IN CICFA.

Mr. David realises these facts, and, having known the sufferings from Indigestion, and the joy of health, with the pleasure of eating what he pleases, he wishes all sufferers to know that Cicfa cured him and that his words are true.

16,000 BRITISH DOCTORS have taken up Cicfa. Very many of them have written us privately of the splendid results which they have obtained by its use. When thousands of British doctors are satisfied with Cicfa, you do not need a sample with which to test it. There can be no better proof.

You can proceed to take it at once. Purchase from your Chemist (**all Chemists sell Cicfa at 1s. 3d. and 3s.**), or, **if there is delay, from us,** on receipt of Postal Order.

THE CICFA COMPANY,
8a, Duke Street, Manchester Square, LONDON.

TO THE TRADE.

We shall be glad to supply all those who are entering for the "John Bull" window-dressing competition with Show Cards and other helpful Advertising materials.

Cicfa in Canada. 50 Cent Size from Capsuloid Co., Brockville, Ontario.
Cicfa in U.S. 50 Cent Size from Capsuloid Co., Morristown, New York State.

J.B., 6/12/19

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